Information About Traditional Settlements Of Karakalpaks

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ABSTRACT

The article presents the experience of typologizing the traditional settlements of the Karakalpaks of the 19th - early 20th centuries. Settlements are formed in the process of formation of types of farms, culture and adaptation to natural and climatic conditions. In connection with the complex type of economy, the Karakalpaks had agricultural, pastoral settlements, sometimes settlements combining agriculture with cattle breeding, or fishing with cattle breeding.

KEYWORDS

Complex type of economy, natural and climatic conditions, tribal structure, settlements, community.

INTRODUCTION

Settlements represent one of the main elements of the culture of each ethnic group. As the most important component of the life support structure, it serves to meet the most urgent human needs. The settlement is presented not only as a historical source, reflecting the ethnic roots of the ethnos itself, the layers of its historical development, the results of interethnic interactions, but also as a
living functioning organism with a certain ethno cultural potential.

The settlements of the Karakalpaks, one of the most ancient Turkic-speaking peoples of Central Asia, like the settlements of any other people, were formed in the process of the formation of types of farms, culture and adaptation to natural and climatic conditions. In connection with the complex type of economy, the Karakalpaks had agricultural, pastoral settlements, sometimes settlements combining agriculture with cattle breeding, or fishing with cattle breeding. There are many similarities and differences in the principles of the location of these settlements. This concerned the geographical location of the area, population density, the order of settlement, including tribal and national characteristics, construction techniques, building materials, planning of dwellings and outbuildings. Similar features of the settlements were observed in 1915, when the population of the Amu Darya department did not represent a mass divided by the economy, despite the farmstead nature of settling in estates. The feature that unites the population is their economic interest. For example, if an aul has a pasture area completely isolated from other auls, then it will represent an independent size. The boundaries of pastures were long established by old clan traditions and usually denoted the land use of the main clans. Therefore, a community united by pasture interests more often did not coincide geographically with a separate aul and was a group of several auls connected by tribal, national or neighborly relations [Materials ..., 1915, p.148-149 ]. In the medieval Arab-Persian sources of the IX-XII centuries. there is information about the numerous settlements located on the modern territory of Karakalpakia. One of the largest settlements of that time was Kyat (Kas) - the capital of Khorezm. According to the descriptions of Al-Maqdisi, Kyat was located east of the river. Amu Darya. In the vicinity of Kyat, there were settlements and fortifications such as, for example, Narimjan Baba, Mizdahkan, Kerder, Tok Kala. The largest of them was Mizdahkan, which was located between Kunya-Urgench and Kerder. Around Mizdahkan, as Al-Maqdisi testifies, there are 12,000 fortifications and a vast volost [Materials..., 1939, p. 150, 178, 187].

Since the end of the 16th-beginning of the 17th centuries, due to the change in the Amu Darya channel from south to north, many settlements in the south, for example, Adak kala, were devastated. And in the north, old settlements were being revived, for example, Pulzhay with a fortification, Aybuir kala, Bograkhan, etc. New settlements appeared, for example, Ashamayly aul, etc. In the nineteenth and early centuries. XX centuries. settlements of the Karakalpaks were based on tribal division, which was investigated by T.A. Zhdanko. The Karakalpaks were divided into two parts, called arys (shafts): arys Ontort uryu and arys Kongrat. Each of these arys occupied certain territories in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya. Arys ontort uryu was located on the right bank of the river, in the Kegeyli canal basin. This territory was the economic center of the delta, where about half of the population and cultural lands were concentrated [T.A. Zhdanko, 1950, p. 39-62]. A. Kaulbars, who noted the settlement of the Karakalpaks here in 1873, drew attention to the extreme compactness of the location of ontort uryu lands on the Kegeyli canal: "... only in the northernmost parts of the area irrigated by them there are already auls of kungrad", ...
moreover, ays kongrat " covers the On-Tert-Uru department from three sides, surrounding the Kegeyli channel with a wide strip "[A. Kaulbars, 1881: 509-511]. The bulk of the population belonging to the Arys Kongrat was concentrated in the northern part of the delta, on the lands adjacent to the Aral Sea, as well as on the left bank of the Amudarya river. Although each Ars had its own settlement territory, representatives of various tribal groups of the Karakalpaks met in their settlements. At the same time, the settlements of the Karakalpaks were formed on the basis of a set of farms of certain tribal groups. As is known, each of the arys, in turn, is divided into two parts: Ontort uryu - into two pairs of departments: Ktai-kypshak and Keneges-mangyt, Kongrat - into two departments: Shulluk and Zhaungyr. In accordance with the division of the Ary, their territories are also divided. In particular, the settlements of ontort uryu were located as follows: Ktai-kypshak on the right bank of the Kegeyli canal, Keneges-mangyt - on the left bank [T.A. Zhdanko, 1950, map 7]. Note that T.A. Zhdanko did not set out to describe the geography of the settlements of Arys Kongrat. We give this moment according to the map of A. Kaulbars in 1873. The settlements of the Kongrat arys of the Shulluk branch were located mainly on the northernwestern side of the Kungrad region to the Ustyurt plateau, the settlements of the Zhaungyr branch were located south of the city of Kungrad to the Sarykamys island.

Thus, comparing the data of T.A. Zhdanko and A.Kaulbars, we define the approximate border in the settlement of Arys Karakalpaks as follows: southern coast of the Aral Sea - Shegara Terek - mazar Akhunbaba - Kese Zhol - Zaire - Kungrad ... Note also that the unification of the Arys Kongrat considers Adak Kala and the area of Zhideli Baysyn one of its ancient settlements. The word "adak" means "lower reaches". The word "Zhideli Baysyn" means "a place rich in jida". Currently, there is no exact localization of the area of Zhideli Baysyn. IS Sagitov and L. Stoletova came to the conclusion that “the Zhideli-Baysyn area originates from the vicinity of the Baysun mountains” [Zh.T. Berdiev, 1996: 15]. Zh.Khoshniyazov, Zh.Berdiev connect Zhideli Baysyn with the territory of the Southern Aral Sea region [ibid.]. Kh.Esbergenov connects with the fortress Adak [Kh.Esbergenov, 1993, p. 28]. T.A. Zhdanko noted that information about resettlement from the territory of Zhideli Baysyn is widespread among Kungradians, which is not observed among ontorts of Uru. These data confirm that the Ars Kongrat lived on the left bank of the Amu Darya River since ancient times. Let's remind that Karakalpak agricultural settlements appeared mainly in 3 places: Kanly-Kol, Kuskhanatau, Kegeyli. Kanly-Kol was located on the left bank of the river. Amu Darya, the rest were on the right. To the north of them were the settlements of cattle breeders and fishermen.

Along with the economic characteristics in the settlements of the Karakalpaks, there were differences in the types of settlement, estates, construction equipment, planning of dwellings and methods of preparation and use of building materials. In the spring, after completing sowing, Karakalpaks from wintering grounds (kyslau) migrated to summer grounds (jazlau), which was associated with cattle breeding. Rich people, leaving relatives or permanent workers on their arable lands, migrated to distant jazlau. Their livestock and horses were grazed in the
summer on natural pastures (flocks). Otar were mainly lake areas, which played an exceptional role in the cattle breeding of the Karakalpaks. The shores and shallow parts of the lakes were covered with thickets of reeds. Poor people chose jazlau not far from their arable lands and grazed cattle in the vicinity of auls. In autumn, after the harvest, the Karakalpaks migrated to the Kyslau. The cattle were grazed in the vicinity of the aul, in the fields that were under arable land. In winter, at night and in severe cold and snowstorms, the herds were driven into enclosed (bark) or covered premises (bastyrma, malkhana, seiskhana). These cattle quarters were located not far from the residential building. The building materials for these structures were determined by the natural conditions of the area. For example, in the Kungrad and Muynak districts, reeds, zhingyl (bush), willow branches, shengel (thorn) were used. In the agricultural areas of Karakalpakstan, household buildings were built, along with the listed building materials, from clay. In winter, the yurts were surrounded by reed hedges, djugara stalks and thorns to protect them from livestock. The stationary dwelling, yurt and all outbuildings of each family were fenced with the same fence. The Karakalpaks stored the harvested crop in special rooms, which were either in the dwelling itself (telek), or close to it (dankhana). In winter, the Karakalpaks with their flocks settled in kurens (winter quarters). According to the explanation of S.K. Kamalov, the word "kuren" coincides with the Karakalpak word "gureng", which means an accumulation of yurts in a fortification that served as protection from adversaries. Here, the registration of the livestock and the collection of the zaket by the khan’s officials was carried out [S.K. Kamalov, 1968, p. 104]. Such fortifications include Orunbay kala (late 17th - early 19th centuries), Akkala (19th century), Oraz-atalyk kala (late 18th - early 19th centuries), etc. The bulk of the Karakalpaks lived in villages (auls), which consisted of several dozen dwellings - yurts. In some auls, the number of dwellings reached two hundred. The auls were located on irrigation ditches led out from the central waterway, without any definite plan, at a considerable distance from each other. Each aul consisted of certain tribal groups and bore the name of the clan or the name of the elders of this clan. Internally, the settlement was subdivided into "koshe" - closely related groups, which were distinguished by compact complexes of estates closely adjacent to each other. In their everyday life, families belonging to a certain kosh were distinguished by the closest traditional ties, complex relationships permeated with ancient, patriarchal rituals and customs. T.A. Zhdanko identified koshe among all tribal groups of the Karakalpaks, regardless of the type of their farms. For example, in 1957 in the village of Elibay (Kegeyli district), where agriculture predominated, the Tarakly population was a typical settlement of the Karakalpak "patronymia" - koshe, when out of 13 families, 12 were related, and one family was alien. There were many similar examples [T.A. Zhdanko, 1960, p. 150, Fig. 3]. Ethnographers have discovered kinship groups similar to koshe among many peoples of Central Asia, the Caucasus, and others [Kosven called them patronyms]. They are remnants of an ancient form of a large patriarchal family. Stable remnants of these ancient forms of a large-family patriarchal community can be traced by the types of settlements and dwellings on the basis of archaeological material. HER. Nerazik, exploring the villages and dwellings of Khorezm I - XIV centuries. in., determined that
the reasons for the preservation of related groups, settled by farms ("nests"), was the form of farming and a rather primitive agricultural technique of artificial irrigation. All this required great labor efforts and cooperation [EE Nerazik, 1976, pp. 224-233]. We also discovered in 1995 in the Chimbay region the traditions of such settlement of the Karakalpaks in compliance with the generic principles, when members of the same clan still adhere to the traditional settlement by patronymic groups. According to an informant from the Saltyr Kypshak clan, all representatives of this clan live on their ancestral lands along the Saltyr Jap family irrigation ditch drawn from the Kegeyli canal and try to build houses for their children here. Similar settlements by tribal groups existed among the Kazakhs, Turkmen, among the semi-nomadic Uzbeks-Arals [O.A. Sukhareva, N.O Tursunov, 1982, p. 40-42].

Determining the types of Karakalpak settlements, TA Zhdanko identified three types of settlements and dwellings, taking as a basis the type of economy, the geographic factor and administrative division [T.A. Zhdanko, 1952: 530-534]. A.S. Morozova identifies 4 types of settlements of the Karakalpaks, based on the peculiarities of natural and climatic conditions, first of all and the economic activity of the Karakalpaks, in the second place [A.S. Morozova, 1954, p. 58-63].

When determining the typology of Karakalpak settlements in the XIX-early XX centuries, we agree with the basic principles of dividing settlements into types identified by T.A. Zhdanko and A.S. Morozova. At the same time, we supplement and clarify the typology of Karakalpak settlements in the nineteenth and early centuries. XX century in. For example, T.A. Zhdanko classifies the settlements located in the south of the Kungrad region as one type, and the settlements located in the northern part of the Khojeli region to another type. In our opinion, this should not be done, since the type of farms and the natural conditions of these settlements are similar. When defining the typology of settlements, we single out a separate type of settlements located on the Ustyurt plateau and in the Kyzyk Kum, where cattle breeding, hunting, and dry farming prevailed.

Thus, we have identified 4 types of Karakalpak settlements in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Farms of the Karakalpaks, where cattle breeding and fishing prevailed, were classified as type I settlements. These are settlements of the northern, north-western part of the Kungrad region, the Muynak region and the north-western part of the Takhtakupyr region. Farms of the Karakalpaks, in which agriculture, combined with cattle breeding, predominated, were attributed to the II type of settlements. This is the south of the Kungrad, north of the Khojeli regions. To the III type of settlements of the Karakalpaks, there are farms in which agriculture prevailed and livestock raising was subsidiary. These are the territories of the south and east of the Khojeli, Nukus, Kegeyli, Karauzyak, Chimbay regions, the southern part of the Takhtakupyr region. It should be noted that among this type of settlements, especially in the western part of the Kegeyli, Nukus regions, there are settlements resembling types I and II. To the IV type of settlements of the Karakalpaks, we will classify the farms where cattle breeding prevailed, combined with rainfed agriculture. These are settlements in the Karakalpak part of the Ustyurt plateau and in Kyzyk Kum, in the north of the Takhtakupyr region.
Settlements of type I were a small aul (20-30 yards), inhabited mainly by members of one clan, and located along the channels of the Amudarya delta, large irrigation ditches, lakes, forming an elongated line. The estates were randomly located and there was no street layout. The estates belonged to 5-6 closely related families. Each estate had a stationary dwelling (qaqra) with a gable roof, a portable dwelling (yurt) and many outbuildings. Each estate was enclosed by a reed hedge. Near the villages on the Cairo lands there were melons and vegetable gardens, occupying small areas. In the absence of such land, they were located at a considerable distance from the fishing village. Large thickets of reeds were located in the vicinity of the settlements. Settlement type I includes settlements located around the fortifications of Zhana kala, Zhamenei kala, Dosym kala, Yakypbay kala, Azbergen, Karazhar settlements, Paygambar kzy, Khakim ata (XII-XVIII centuries), Nukus (XVI-XVII centuries), Tokpak ata (XII-XIX centuries). The settlements of the clergy are distinguished into a special subtype. For example, on the shores of Zhansiz Island there was a settlement Zhantemir Ishan, Seytek Ishan (XVIII-XIX centuries), etc. Each settlement had trade and craft centers, mosques and madrasahs, for example, Kazibay-akhun, Elmurat-akhun (XII-XIX ).

Type II settlements were scattered. The principles of settling by closely related families were also observed here. Groups of estates of such families were located in isolation among gardens, fields, orchards (farm type of settlement), and there were also compact settlements of certain tribal groups. Each estate had a stationary dwelling (there), the walls of which were adobe and the roof was flat. Opposite the entrance there was a room for a yurt (uy jay), outbuildings, premises for livestock, for storing feed, a summer kitchen, a shed (shertek). The entire complex was fenced with an adobe wall. Melons, a vegetable garden, a garden were located near the estate. In this type of settlements, there are stationary dwellings with "ayvans" (on ayvan and teris ayvan). "Teris ayvan" is a canopy through which one can get to "on ayvan", on the sides of which there are entrances to the living rooms. The walls of "on ayvan" are much higher than the rest and usually have windows on the north side.

Type II settlements include settlements located near the fortifications of Kalalyk, Nokis kala, Zhana kala, the settlements of Ulfet Ishan, Sarymai (now monuments on the territory of Khojeli, Shumanai districts), settlements near the mazars of Azer-baba, Nurai-baba, Pirman ishan, Nasrullah akhun, etc.

Settlements of type III were located along the banks of the large irrigation systems Lauzan, Suenli, Shortanbay, Kegeyli, Kuanysh-Zharma, Kok-ozek, etc. In the center of the settlements there are often “hauil” (fortress houses) of a large family, a mosque, and a madrasah. Near these buildings there were adobe dwellings "there", yurts-otau, household buildings, premises for livestock. Not far from the villages there were cultivated areas and pastures. Poplars were planted near the houses. On the outskirts of the settlements there were pottery kilns (kumbiz), workshops of foundry workers (shoynshy), blacksmiths (temirshi), carpenters, etc. Chigiri (water-lifting structures) were seen along the banks of the irrigation systems.

The settlements of type III include the settlements located in the south, southeast of Khojejili, such as Kolap, Saryshungul, Bozeuli,
Keneges, Zhalair, etc. In these settlements there were hauli bays, mosques Khudaybergen akhuna, Zholymbet akhuna, etc. On the territory of the Kegeyli region, large settlements are Kum-ozek (Ishan-kala), Zhana-bazar, in which there were Khauli Abdulla bai, Baynazar-bolysa, etc. In the center of the settlement of Kum-ozek there was a mosque. A caravan road, connecting Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and Russia, passed through this settlement. To the east was the Kaip-Darga crossing. Such settlements include Karakum ishan, Aimbet ishan, Erezhep kala (Chimbay region), the Ak-dzhagys settlement, where Bes Meshit was located (Takhtakupyr region), the settlement of Murat shaikh (Karauzyak region).

Settlements of type 4 were located near "qaq" (natural accumulators of moisture in the lowlands) on the Ustyurt plateau, along the western edge of the Kyzylkum desert, near wells. "Qаq", wells, pastures represented lands suitable for rainfed agriculture and were considered the property of the tribal group. In the resettlement, the principle of closely related neighborhood was observed. The settlements were dominated by portable dwellings - yurts covered with felt, temporary dwellings and outbuildings. These are the fortifications of Adak on the Ustyurt plateau, Baraktam, the Mambetkarim akhun mosque on the western edge of the Kyzylkum desert, the Mustafa Ishan mosque, Sherip kala, etc. (Takhtakupyr region), Seren Kala (Chimbay region).

Thus, the settlements are one of the components of the traditional material culture of the Karakalpaks, which reflect in a certain aspect the ethnic territory, climatic conditions, types of farms, and the social structure of the people. Natural and climatic, economic and historical factors determined the formation and development of types of settlements, dwellings, outbuildings, building materials and construction techniques. One of the features of the Karakalpak settlements is its connection with a complex type of economy, namely: agriculture, cattle breeding, fishing, hunting, in a certain aspect, are reflected in the types of settlements. One of the main reasons for the emergence of various types of Karakalpak settlements is associated with the geographic location of the region: in the north - the Aral Sea, in the east - the Kyzyl Kum, in the west - the Ustyurt plateau, in the south - the northern edge of the Karakum desert and the lower reaches of the Amudarya and Syr Darya deltas. In this regard, the Karakalpaks formed various types of farms and associated types of settlements and dwellings, which are characterized by a sedentary and semi-sedentary lifestyle. Data on the settlements of the Karakalpaks indicate that the processes of the emergence and development of a sedentary and semi-sedentary lifestyle proceeded in close contact and had the same origins.

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