ANTHROPOGENIC LANDSCAPES AND THEIR ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY IN THE PROCESS OF URBANIZATION

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Abstract. The article examines ancient landscapes and anthropogenic influences on them in urban planning processes through archaeological research in Uzbekistan. Ancient landscapes are illuminated by the study of the history of the material culture of ancient cities.

In archaeology today, special attention is paid to multi-disciplinary areas. In this regard, in Uzbekistan, the results of studies of several disciplines on the study of ancient anthropogenic landscapes of this region through archaeological research are important. The problems of the landscape, formed as a geographical concept, today are also interesting to scientists in archaeological terms. One of the areas related to the study of the formation and development of landscapes is anthropogenic landscape research, which plays an important role in archaeological research. The archaeological study of the problem of anthropogenic landscape in Uzbekistan is associated with the first complex archaeological research on this territory.

In particular, studies of the Termez archaeological complex expedition led by M.E. Masson, excavations in the Ferghana Valley in connection with the construction of the Great Ferghana Canal under the direction of Y. Gulumov, Based on materials collected in excavations in Khorezm under the direction of S.P. Tolstov, it can be seen that the interaction of humanity with nature on the territory of Uzbekistan from ancient times to the Middle Ages, adapting natural landscapes to their habitat conditions, gave rise to new landscapes, that is, anthropogenic landscapes.

History of Uzbekistan’s influence on ancient urban planning processes and their landscape changes, crafts, production processes and raw materials used in them, the anthropogenic influence of people in agriculture and animal husbandry on natural landscapes, water landscapes, processes of creating road and garden landscapes with archaeological finds and written sources.

Today, archaeologists face the task not only of finding new finds but also of widely studying the aspen artefacts left by people, the landscapes of their habitat and their connection with the natural environment. Research is carried out in the direction of the so-called landscape archaeology. From ancient times to the present day, thanks to the convenient development of natural landscapes by people, the discovery of new attractions, new roads, unique anthropogenic landscapes began to appear.

As a result of the development of archaeological research, the socio-economic
The development of the region also became possible to cover the main stages of the history of irrigation. The beginning of the first irrigated agriculture in Central Asia, including Uzbekistan, led to the appearance of the first water landscapes in this region. Uzbekistan has conducted numerous studies of the history of irrigated agriculture and irrigation, during which great scientific achievements have been achieved. In particular, large scientific works have been created that reflect the history of the development of agricultural lands, irrigation of Ancient Khorezm, the Zarafshan gorge. [1-3]

Of particular importance for the study of the water landscapes of Uzbekistan are studies conducted in the Ferghana Valley.

Ferghana Valley is a territory fully developed as the oldest irrigated agriculture in Central Asia. Research by many scientists, such as A.Yu. Yakubovsky, M.E. Masson, V.A. Shishkin, S.P. Tolstov, Ya.G. Gulyamov, B.A. Latynin, I. Akhrarov, A. Anorboev, B. Matboboev, G. Ivanov, are of particular importance in the archaeological study of this area. Their research focuses not only on the history of agriculture and crafts in the region but also on the history of irrigation. The first archaeological study of the Ferghana Valley was carried out, especially during the construction of the Great Fergana Canal, during which a large amount of material was obtained to illuminate the anthropogenic landscape of the region.

As a result, the history of irrigation in the Ferghana Valley has been illuminated by written sources and archaeological research. Fergana Valley is the oldest agricultural oasis in Central Asia, located in the upper reaches of the Syr Darya. Soil fertility, the availability of water resources and favourable climatic conditions were the main factors in the formation and development of the first settled agriculture here. Ferghana is one of the first regions with ancient agricultural culture such as ancient Bactria, Sogd and Khorezm. When studying the history of the ancient material culture of Ferghana, the remains of the settlements of Markhamat, Simtepa, Karkidon, Gayrattepa, Munchoktepa, as well as the remains of multi-layered cities such as Kasan, Akhsikent, Kuva, and their studies provide a lot of information about the anthropogenic landscapes of this period.

The archaeological artefacts of ancient agriculture and handicrafts obtained from these sites provide interesting information on how the land developed at the time, where the soil was obtained in ceramics, an important branch of crafts, their achievements in mining and metalworking methods. The fact that the burnt grain in the ruins of the city of Kuva was burned certainly indicates that the population was engaged in agriculture in ancient times, and the fact that this area is rich in water shows us a unique water landscape and a unique man-made landscape around the city. From this, it can be seen that the discovery of a sickle, plough, knife used in horticulture among the tools used in agriculture, on the one hand, indicates the agricultural activity of the population of that period, on the other hand, the formation of a garden landscape in the city. The opening of the grain mill once again illustrates the economic activities of the ancient inhabitants of Fergana. [4]

Archaeological and hydrological studies in the Fergana Valley show that the Sokh River was fully used for irrigation. This river is considered one of the wettest rivers in South Fergana. The road connecting the Fergana Valley with the Zarafshan oasis through Kokand, the ancient city of Fergana, shows that from the earliest days of irrigated agriculture these areas were developed by Sogdian farmers. [5,6]

So, since ancient times, in the process of urban planning, each city had its production and economic sphere, and in the development of these spheres, the population had a unique impact on natural landscapes. Archaeological excavations have shown that he created new waterscapes, road landscapes in mutual trade, and
garden landscapes in urban landscaping.

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