

FOREIGN RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC OF THE HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE FERGANA VALLEY IN ARABIC SOURCES OF THE 9TH – 13TH CENTURIES AND THEIR ANALYSIS

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Abstract

Certain ideas and observations have been expressed in the studies on the historical geography of Fergana in the 9th-13th centuries by scientists from foreign countries, including Austria, Turkey, Russia, Azerbaijan, and France. Nevertheless, some of them express some noteworthy ideas within the framework of the problem of interest to us.

Keywords: A. Sprenger, V. Tomashek, K. Brockelman, Barthelemy Dyerbelo de Molinville, E. de Zambaur, S. Whiting Marvin, Beisebayev Rakhat Sansizbayevich.

Introduction

To date, a number of scientific works on the medieval historical geography of Fergana have been created in the historiography of the world and Uzbekistan. Serious scientific considerations are found in some aspects of the history of the region in these studies. According to the time and place of creation, existing literature can be divided into the following 3 groups:

1. Literature published in foreign countries;
2. Scientific works published in the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union;
3. Studies conducted in Uzbekistan during the years of independence.

Literature published in foreign countries is very diverse in period, language and area cross-section, and falls into the mainstream literature. The first work to use Arabic-language geographical works, containing information about the Fergana Valley, was the famous Austrian Arabist A.Sprenger belongs to the pen [1]. A.Sprenger uses Arabic-language historical-geographical sources dating from the 9th-13th centuries to identify several reliable references to Oghuz, Özgand, Akhsikent and other Fergana cities. In writing his work, the orientalist scholar cites the works of Ibn Khordodbeh (9th century), al-Istakhriy (10th century), Ibn Hawqal (10th century), al-Idrisiy (12th century), as translations of information about the cities of Fergana [2]. It should be noted separately that this work was written without a clear knowledge of the geography of the Fergana Valley. The data is also mostly given in translation, which has not been analyzed. Of the scientists studied in Europe,

V. Tomasshek's historical-geographical work, particular attention is paid to Fergana [3], the historical geography of the Zarafshan River basin is considered [4]. V. Tomasshek studied in some places the toponymy of Fergana, etymology and origin of separate place names, but the bulk of this material belongs to the Amudaryo basin. One of the earliest studies on the issue of the connection of Ibn al-Asir's data with facts in the work of at-Tabari was considered a work by the German scientist K. Brockelmann [5]. For our research it is only interesting to know that K. Brockelmann's work is a study of medieval works containing historical accounts of the Fergana valley. In his study, he attempts to address the question of the connection between the texts of the works of Ibn al-Asir and at-Tabari alone, without paying attention to the references to the Fergana valley. An early study of the historical geography of the Fergana valley is the bibliographic collection of Bartelemy Dierbelo de Molinville's "Bibliothèque orientale" ("Oriental Library"). This work is the first scholarly encyclopedia on the Muslim East created in the West. In his work, the author gives information about the scientific centers of the Fergana Valley, scientists who have grown up from here, as well as about the medieval cities of Fergana, such as Andijan, Ahsikent, Khojand, Quwa, Koson. An interesting aspect is that, although the work was created in the new era, that is, in the XVII century, the author was able to make the most of the sources of medieval Arabic and Persian-Tajik in the writing of the work [6]. French explorer E. de Zambaur, in his work "Manuel I genealogie et de chronologie pour l'histoire de l'islam" (Handbook of genealogy and yearbook for Islamic history), tells the story of many dynasties in Islamic history. Among them, he gave notable information about the Xokani and Somonian dynasties that grew out of the Fergana valley [7]. The political historical geography of the valley is closely related to the history of dynasties. In this respect, we can see information about the Ikhshidi and Somonian dynasties, whose origins are from Fergana, based on their sources in the Arab-Persian languages, as well as the "Хроники мусульманских государств I–VII веков хиджры" [8] ("Chronicle of Muslim states of the 1st–7th centuries AH") by the son of the ozarbaijan scholar Ali-zade Aydin Arif [9]. Another Turkish Explorer, Yunus Akyurek's "Fergana bölgesinin islâm tarihindeki yeri ve önemi (VIII.-XIII. Yüzyıllar arası)", which addresses the issues of political, socio-economic and cultural processes in the Fergana valley in the 8th-13th centuries. But when highlighting the issues that the researcher puts before him, he relies mainly on the results of scientific research, in this respect, this doctoral dissertation can be considered as a fundamental research rather than a scientific one. The use of Arabic and Persian-language sources is rare. Source analysis is very rare [10]. Issues of political history cover the history of the Arab Caliphate, the Somonians, the Karakhanids, the Kidans, Kuchluk state, the Saljuqs, the Khwarezmshahs and the Chigatoy ulus. Of course, it is impossible to analyze such many issues in a complete, systematic way within the framework of one scientific study.

According to the author in the dissertation, Islam in the Fergana Valley was adopted as a definitive common religion in the 11th century [11]. But historical sources have not found facts confirming this information. Many researchers believe that the basis of historical research is the analysis of historical sources, and make the most of written sources. But some researchers, from an amateur point of view, do not cite any source or literature in their study

in the way of reference, and the importance of this book will be similar. One of these is published by S.Vayting Marvin in New York, 2002 "Imperial Chinese military history: 8000 BC – 1912 AD" [12] (military history of the Chinese empire: mil.in the 1st century BC. 8000-before ad 1912). It tells the story of the interaction between the Tang empire and the Fergana state in the first half of the 8th century. According to his work, Alutar came to the throne in 715 with the help of the Arabs [13]. S.Vayting Marvin does not cite references from a single work or source when substantiating the information cites in his work. Hence, his thoughts are a requirement of debate.

The author Beisebayev Rachat Sansizbayevich's book "Арабские источники IX- начала XIII вв. о Восточном Мавераннахре" (on the Eastern Movarounnahr in the 9th - 13th century Arabic sources), which analyzes the information about the Eastern Movarounnahr, which is presented in Arabic-language historical as well as historical-geographical sources. The source basis of dissertation is solid-including, in the process of writing the study, the "Ta'rix Xalifa ibn Hayyot" ("Tarixi Xalifa Ibn Hayyot"), al-Balazuriyning "Kitob futuh al-buldon" (Mamlakatlar zabd etish kitobi), Ibn A'sam al-Kufiyning "Kitob al-futuh" ("Fathlar kitobi"), al-YA'qubiyning "Ta'rix" ("Tarix"), "Kitob al-buldon" ("Mamlakatlar kitobi"), Ibn al-Faqih Hamadoniyning "Kitob al-buldon" ("Mamlakatlar kitobi"), ad-Dinavariyning "Kitob axbar at-tival" ("Xabarlar kitobi"), Mutahhar ibn Tohir al-Muqaddasiyning "Kitob al-bad' va-t-ta'rix" ("Yaratilish kitobi va tarix"), at-Tabariyning "Ta'rix ar-rusul va-l-muluk" ("Payg'ambarlar va podshohlar tarixi"), Ibn al-Asirning "Al-Komil fi-t-ta'rix" ("Mukammal tarix"), al-Mas'udiyning "Muruj" az-zahab va ma'adin al-jauhar" ("Oltin konlari va qimmatbaho toshlar"), as-Sam'oniyning nasabnomaga oid ensiklopedik asari "Kitob al-ansab" ("Nasablar kitobi"), al-Xorazmiyning "Kitob surat al-ard" ("Yer surati kitobi"), Ibn Xordodbehning "Kitob al-masalik va-l-mamalik" ("Yo'llar va davlatlar kitobi"), al-YA'qubiyning "Kitob al-buldan" ("Mamlakatlar kitobi"), Ibn Rustaning "Kitob al-a'lak an-nafisa" ("Qimmatbaho marjonlar kitobi"), Qudoma ibn Ja'farning "Kitob al-xaraj va-san'at al-Kitaba". ("Xoraj kitobi va kotiblik san'ati"), al-Mas'udiyning "Kitob at-tanbih va -l-ishraf" ("Ogohlantirish va qayta ko'rib chiqish kitobi"), al-Istaxriy va Ibn Haukalning shu nomdagi "Kitob al-masalik va-l-mamalik" ("Yo'llar va mamlakatlar kitobi") al-Muqaddasiyning "Ahsan at-taqosim fi ma'rifat al-aqolim", al-Beruniyning "al-Qonun al-Mas'udiy" ("Mas'ud qonuni"), Yoqut al-Hamaviyning "Mu'jam al-buldan" ("Mamlakatlar alifbosi ro'yxati" yoki "Mamlakatlar lug'ati") used editions of his works, as well as their manuscript copies [14]. Chapters 2-3 of the study also provide information about the Fergana valley, which is part of the Eastern Movarounnahr. But no separate chapters or paragraphs have been assigned to the question of Fergana. In this respect, it is difficult to say that the work is a serious, intensive scientific study.

All issues are separated by the content of the sources and given in general, in most cases the data is written in a mixed manner [15]. Analysis of research on the topic indicates that the historical geography of the Fergana valley has not been studied in a holistic way in historical science so far.

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