

AMIR TEMUR AND THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE TIMURID PERIOD AS WELL AS THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF SAMARKAND ARE EXAMINED IN WESTERN EUROPEAN HISTORIOGRAPHY

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Abstract:

This article is about the unique position of Central Asia in world civilization, its achievements in the fields of science, culture, architecture, especially its high development during the period of Amir Temur and the Timurids, the culture and architecture of Central Asia, especially in Samarkand It shows how the work of European, especially Italian, English, French and German historians is treated in the work. At the same time, the situation of Amir Temur's capital Samarkand in the 19th century is covered.

Keywords: "The Greatness of Tamerlane of Scythia", Amir Temur, Historiography, F. Schlosser, Bukhara and Samarkand, Turkestan, "Vsemirnaya istoriya" (General History), German Schools of Oriental Studies, Scientific and Historical Museum of Lyon.

Introduction

The history of the city of Samarkand and the Zarafshan Oasis region during the era of Amir Temur and the Timurids has been extensively studied in foreign scientific literature. In particular, the interest of European scientists in the personality and activities of Amir Temur began 400 years ago. From this it can be seen that it is no exaggeration to say that the interest of European countries in the Timurid period and their cities began in the 14th and 15th centuries. For this reason, world scientists are increasingly interested in studying the diverse biography of Amir Temur as a statesman, organizer and creator, politician and diplomat in close connection with the fate of the peoples included in his domestic and foreign policy, including that of Perondino in 1553 The Glory of Tamerlane of Scythia was published in Florence, Italy. The book presents the first views on Amir Temur and his campaigns in Europe. Valuable information is given about Samarkand, the improvement works, construction, population and villages of the city during the time of Amir Temur.

Rui González de Clavijo's "Diary of a Trip to Samarkand, Timur's Palace (1403-1406)" [1] is certainly the first among the written sources published in European languages (Spanish, English, French). This work was first published in Madrid by Gonzal Argote de Molina. From 1582 to 1990, when Professor Lucien Keren published the last translation with extensive annotations, a total of ten translations of Kundalik were published, including in Argentina, and a Persian translation in 1958.

The famous English historian Edward Gibbon (1737-1794), the author of a major work on the decline and collapse of the mighty Roman Empire, paid attention to the personality of Amir Temur



when describing the medieval history of Western Europe and the East. E. Gibbon "Amir Temur had the goal of conquering and ruling the world. To gain respect in the memory of generations was the second desire of his noble heart. His wills (which probably referred to "Timur's Rings") remained unknown to Europe; he was amazed at "Timur's rise from a simple beggar to the ruler of Asia". [2] The name Amir Temur can also be found in the important "General History" by Friedrich Schlosser (1776-1861), a representative of the Heidelberg school of historians, who created "Amir Temur" a happy warrior, a new ruler of the world, a person who adapted tactical and strategic knowledge." At the same time, F. Schlosser rejected the presumption in describing the image of Amir Temur and noted the flattery of the palace chroniclers. At the same time, F. Schlosser noted that Amir Temur, when he returned from his travels to Bukhara and Samarkand, "gave his new state a constitution and laws," "who was a great leader and ruler and had the talent." He was a lawyer, was interested in various knowledge and supported scientists and artists. He stood above the sultan of his kingdom. He concluded that Bayazid only thought about gold and neglected the work of state administration, leaving it in the hands of greedy, greedy and ambitious judges[4]. G. Weber also noted (based on the sources) that the military campaigns at the time of Amir Temur were intense. The French orientalist M. Sharmois, who served in Petersburg in the first half of the 19th century, wrote a voluminous book about Amir Temur's campaign against Khokhtamish in 1391, he prepared and published a work.

Apart from Nizamuddin Shami's book, which was not yet known in France at the time, M. Sharmoua highly appreciates Timur's architectural and landscape architectural works, drawing on several sources on the subject. M. Sharmoua translated Nizamiddin Shami's Zafarnama into French. M. Charmois's book has lost its significance for the study of the history of the 1391 campaign. From this it can be concluded that knowledge about Central Asia, especially Samarkand, already existed in Europe in earlier periods, but the in-depth scientific analysis of the city by European scientists was divided into two phases: First, the state of the Timurids, which occurred during the reign of Amir Temur became the most powerful state in the East, and it is the prosperity of the capital Samarkand, the well-established diplomatic relations between Amir Temur and European countries; Second, from the mid-19th century onwards, the study of the colonial policy of the Russian Empire aroused great interest in European countries throughout Central Asia, and many scientific expeditions were organized to the region.

In later periods, Western interest in Central Asian khanates may have waned somewhat. The reason for this is the great geographical discoveries in Europe during this period, as well as the beginning of manufactured production, which replaced manual labor, the emergence of the first industrial enterprises and the slowness of science in the East, a relatively closed policy, distancing from the sea, production based still relying on manual labor, the lack of businesses, the country has cut off trade with Europe.

Later, after the struggle for colonies began in Europe, Europe's interest in Central Asia grew, followed by Russia. It is no exaggeration to say that many tourists and ambassadors from Europe visited the territory of our country, and the largest number of them came in the 19th century. According to archival data, a total of 260 foreign tourists and researchers visited Turkestan between 1890 and 1898, including 75 English, 70 Germans, 57 French, 24 Austro-Hungarians, 15 Americans, 7 Danes, 4 Belgians and 4 Italians. 3 Swiss, 1 Spanish[5].

The first scientific journal in France – "Journal des Savants" – appeared in the 17th century. Important information on the history of the region was published in this magazine in the 1930s



and 40s [6].

The materials containing the results of scientific expeditions are various scientific articles, journals, diaries, illustrations and scientific materials in the form of reports on the socio-economic, political and cultural life of the Turkestan region. They are characterized by their wealth of information. such as its geographical appearance. Articles on local geographical studies are published mainly in journals such as “Annales des voyages”, “Bulletin de la Societe de Geographie”, “L'Exploration”, “Revue de Geographie” and “Revue geographique Internationale”. One of the greatest results of the expeditions organized by the French was published in Paris in 1878-1880 by M.Sh.Ujfalviy in a six-volume work entitled “Expedition scientifique Franfaise en Russie, en Siberie etdans le Turkestan” – “French Expedition” in Russia , Siberia and Turkestan”. Each volume of this book has its own character and is dedicated to different stages of the expedition. In particular, the second volume of the work describes the Syrdarya basin, Tashkent, Samarkand and the Yettisuv region[6].

The scientific information from these regions is highlighted, especially in the geological, archaeological and ethnological areas. The materials from this expedition were also presented at major scientific conferences in St. Petersburg and Paris. After the expedition was completed, various reports, materials and articles were written. The captured items were made into exhibits and presented to scientists at various exhibitions in Europe. In addition, M.Sh. visited Ujfalviy at the end of the expedition the madrassas Afrosiyob, Gori Amir, Shahizinda, Bibikhanim, Tillakori, Sherdor and Ulugbek in Samarkand. This is evidenced by the fact that these structures have been the “sail” of Samarkand for centuries.

Bonvalot Pierre Gabreil [7] was one of the French explorers who studied the region in detail and left behind a wealth of information. His “In Central Asia. From Kohistan to the Caspian Sea” [8], the specific features of Samarkand, historical monuments such as Gori Amir, Shahizinda, Bibikhanim and the blue stone that formed the foundation of Amir Temur's throne are mentioned [6]. Zhan Shaffanjon, who visited the Central Asian region with a special scientific expedition in 1894-1895[9]. (Jean Chaffanjon, 1854-1913) was a naturalist and employee of the scientific and historical museum of Lyon.

The archaeological research conducted by Shaffanjon in the Samarkand Afrosiyab Monument was not successful because it was not important for the expedition members to investigate the historical significance of the city, on the contrary, the goal was to find unique examples of art that would prove the existence of one ancient civilization in Afrosiyob. The main thing is to get as many finds as possible.

Shaffanjon was dissatisfied with the excavation work and appealed to the Russian government to recruit pioneers. With the help of gunpowder, many exhibits were collected into a complex in the ruins of Afrosiyab, causing great damage to the city. After Shaffanjon returned to Paris, he published interesting information about the scientific expedition in the pages of the Journal des Debats. They reflected the archaeological research carried out in the Poykand, Marv and Afrosiyab regions, as well as information about the historical monuments built by Amir Temur in Samarkand and Jizzakh [6].

In 1898–1899, Hugo Craft, a member of the Paris Geographical Society, organized a trip beyond the Caspian Sea and made his journey through Turkestan. In his works, information about the main historical monuments of Samarkand, Gori Amir, Bibikhanim, Shakhi Zinda and Registan is provided. The history of Samarkand is described from Alexander the Great to the Mughal



invasion. This work by G.Kraft contains ethnographic information about the processes of production and sale of clothing and traditional handicraft products of the local population, Jews and Russians [6].

In addition to the architectural monuments and inhabitants of Samarkand, the French also left special information about railway construction in this area. In his correspondence, the Frenchman F. Lissips reported on the construction of 12,000 km of railways from Orenburg to Samarkand and from Samarkand to Peshawar and gave the necessary information about Samarkand. The above works were published by renowned publishers in France and found a worthy place in European historiography. The material finds from Central Asia are also kept today in the Louvre, Bern, Guimet and Trocadero museums.

German schools of Oriental studies consisted of departments of linguistics and Turkic studies, and later the study of the East moved in this way to Russian schools as well. Max Albrecht, one of the German experts who conducted extensive research in the country, came to Turkestan with his wife in the fall of 1893. His work, written based on the information and impressions of this trip, is characterized by rich information about the history and life of the country.

Based on his research, Max Albrecht comes to the conclusion that the Zarafshan River once flowed into the Amudarya near the city of Khorjui. However, this conclusion is somewhat untrue, since the Zarafshan River flowed into the Amudarya as early as the Neolithic period. With the development of agriculture, the Zarafshan water flowed into the Amudarya before reaching the Bukhara steppe, divided into tributaries and sank into the sand (by the author). The name Amudarya was also discussed, and the name of the river means “bread river” in Chinese, which is the river that feeds the country, and the Zarafshan Valley is the most fertile land for agriculture on earth. It can be concluded that Zarafshan and its central city of Samarkand were at various times the center of the Emirate of Bukhara, as well as the existing historical state.

In summary, Europe's thoughts and views on Central Asia were lightly formed in the 16th century, but were much richer at the beginning of the 19th century. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the reason for this is that the colonial countries began to pay attention to the region and the major powers increased their interest in the socio-economic life of the country. First of all, tourists pay special attention to the geographical and geological location of Central Asia, the population of the city, the socio-economic situation, the population structure, the way of life of different nationalities, traditions and similar issues.

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