

EARLY MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIZDAKHKAN SITE

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Abstract:

In this article, cultural layers identified as a result of archaeological excavations in the area of Gyaur Castle will help us to better study our history. A unique culture was formed here, as a result of archaeological excavations and the study of written sources, a lot of information was revealed, including handicraft production, pottery, weaving, and money circulation were again established, indicating economic well-being and the strengthening of new feudal relations. This, in turn, affected the further development of culture, writing, and applied arts.

Keywords: handicraft production, pottery, weaving, money circulation, culture, brick, excavation.

In the IV-V centuries. AD, in connection with the outbreak of the crisis of ancient society, which is reflected in the Gyaur Kala (in the Mizdakhkan sources) by layers of desolation (excavation I. II) and the decline of the city, new buildings are being erected to the east of the latter. As a result of the decline of trade and craft, the city of Gyaur Kala gradually began to decline, the populated area decreased, and in the vicinity of the city a number of settlements ceased to exist.

Feudal relations that arose in the depths of the ancient system led to the death of the latter, then they developed further and brought new forces to life. The crisis gradually overcame itself and there was a slight rise in economic life. In Mizdakhkan, handicraft production, pottery, weaving, and money circulation were again established, indicating economic well-being and the strengthening of new feudal relations. This, in turn, affected the further development of culture, writing, and applied arts.

Early medieval layers and associated material culture complexes were obtained during work at the Gyaur Kala settlement (Mizdakhkan) V.N. Yagodin (Fig. 1).

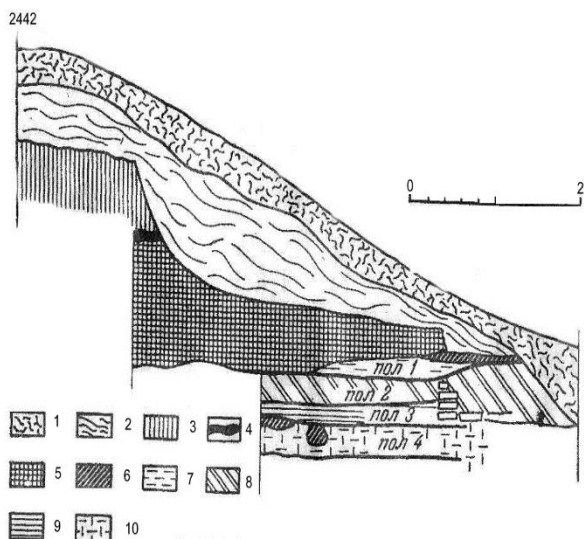
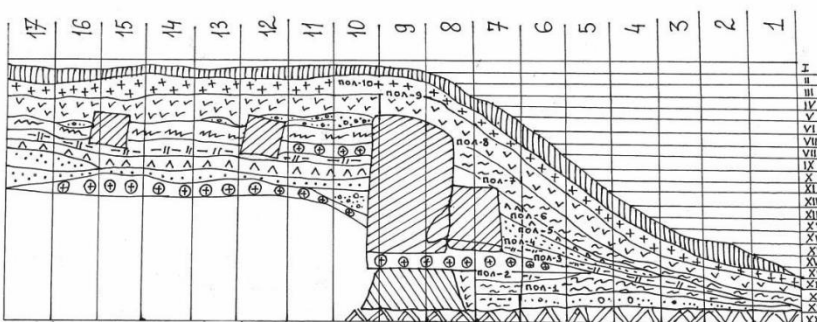
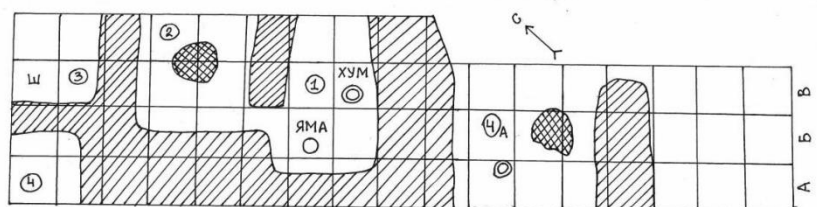


Fig.1. Ancient Mizdakhkan. Excavation I.

Proposed by V.N. Yagodin [1:193] periodization was of great importance for further archaeological work in Mizdakhkan. On the eastern slope of the monument there is a small mound measuring 13x22 m and 3.7 m high. Most of its area has been destroyed. There is no trace of a donjon on the hillock; obviously, this is an early medieval manor without a donjon. Similar estates existed in the Berkutkala oasis [2:8,12]. Settlement of farmers of Khorezm in the VI-VIII centuries AD. in the estates was associated with the specifics of the economy, based on irrigated agriculture, which in the conditions of the Amu Darya delta had a special character, different from that known in other territories of Central Asia.

Undoubtedly, the settlement of early medieval culture in Fergana was similar to what is observed in the Mizdakhkan rural district. Typical for this time, B.H. Matbabaev considers rural dwellings to be in the form of separate fortified castle houses [3:21]. Their appearance, according to A.N. Bernshtam, is the result of a break in tribal families that lived in castle houses [4:17].

Excavation II (5X8) (Fig. 2) was founded on a settlement in the northwestern part, located 320-350 m from the eastern wall of Gyaurkala in order to study stratigraphy. The upper layers were destroyed; According to available materials, they date back to the 11th-13th centuries. In the process of work, under the cultural remains of the 11th-12th centuries. AD walls of a building from the early medieval period have been identified. The excavation revealed two poorly preserved rooms. Room No. 1 (2X3 m) was recorded in the eastern part of the excavation, opened at the level of the early medieval period to a height of up to 1.5 m. The length of the southern wall is 2 m, the eastern one is 3 m, the western one is 3 m, the northern one has not been preserved. Room No. 2 (2.10x3.10 m) is located to the west of room No. 1. The walls are made of square mud bricks measuring 35-36X36-37X8-9 cm, i.e. standard characteristic of early medieval Khorezm [5:87].



1 [III] -дерновый слой; 2 [VII] -золотые слои; 3 [V] -песчано-глинистые наклонно залегающие намывы; 4 [XII] -плотно утрамбованная глина прикрытая сверху слоем золы; 5 [II] -паховая стена; 6 [VI] -зола и уголь; 7 [XIII] -камышовая прослойка; 8 [XIV] -сулещаный слой зеленого и серого цвета; 9 [XV] -коричневый мягкий слой; 10 [XVI] -песок; 11 [XVII] -серый твердый слой с комками глины; 12 [XVIII] -очаг; 13 [XIX] -номер помещений; 14 [XX] -материк

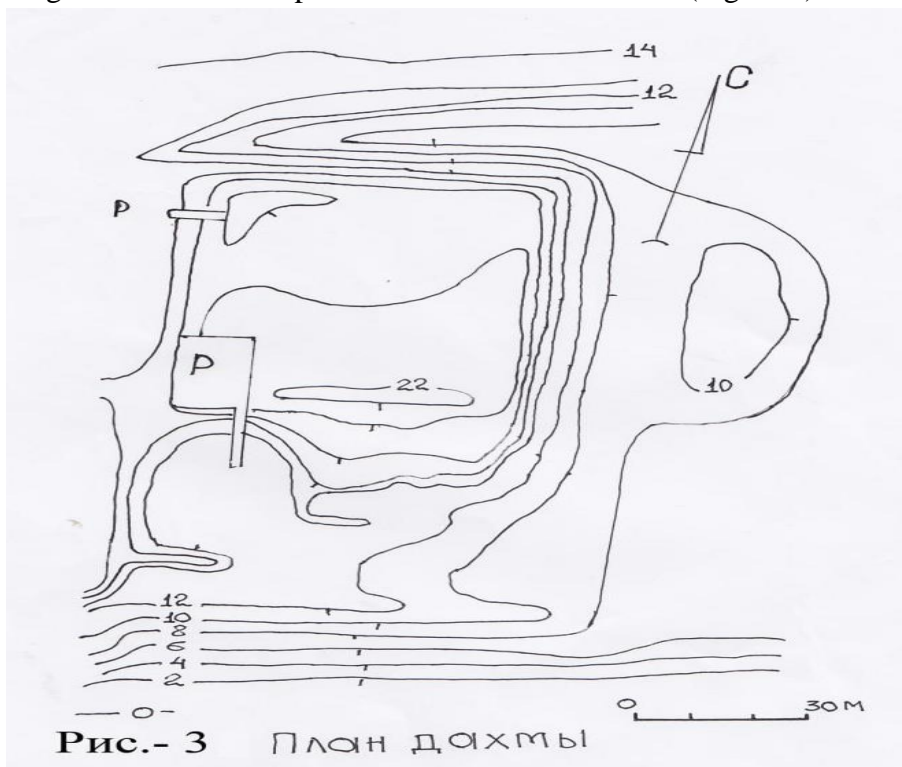
Рис. 2 Раскоп II план и разрез

During the excavation process, two stages of one chronological period were revealed. The first period includes the absorption pit. With the same diameter of 0.62 m, the flat cylindrical devices have a height of 2.5-3 m [6:85]. Similar ceramic well walls are often found in monuments of the

Kerder culture. Wells inside the dwelling are characteristic of the layout of many Khorezm estates of the Afrigid era [7:86].

The cultural layer above the level of the first floor is dark gray in color. It is dense with numerous inclusions of white salts. The second floor is 19-22 cm higher than the first. The layer above the floor, up to 14-23 cm thick, contains a significant amount of organic residues (plant stems, sheep manure).

In 2000, we identified a dakhma in the southeastern part of Gyaur Kala, which had a rectangular shape, measuring 80x60 m at the top and 110x80 m at the bottom (Figure 3).



At the end of the 90s of the 20th century, an area measuring 20x12 m was opened in its southern part and a section of 20x1.5 m was made, closer to the southwestern corner. On the mainland there was a platform 4.9 m high. Its lower part was initially covered with soil and construction waste; a combined masonry of pakhsa and mud bricks measuring 35-38x35-38x6 cm was built on top from the outside in the form of a jacket. The upper surface of the structure was laid out in one row burnt bricks measuring 26-38x26-38x5-6 cm. The surface from south to north has a drop of more than 1 m. The structure was built somewhere in the late VII th - early VIII th centuries.

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