

# HISTORY OF TASHKENT OASIS REFLECTED IN ROCK PICTURES

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## ANNOTATION

The article describes the study of rock paintings found in Tashkent region as a historical material culture, the chronology and content of these rock monuments, the uniqueness of rock paintings. At the same time, the role and importance of rock paintings in the history of the Tashkent oasis is highlighted in the article.

## Key words and phrases:

Types of ancient art, material wealth, rock paintings, petroglyphs, ancient inscriptions, archaeological expeditions, rock inscriptions, chronology of petroglyphs, legends, Chotkal, Chirchik, Khojakent, Kizilolmalisoy, Bashkizilsoy, Karaqiyasoy, Teraklisoy.

## 1. Relevance of the topic:

Each region has its own history. In the study of the history of regions, each source characteristic of each period, whether it is a material source or a written source, has its place and becomes important.

Central Asia is a region with an important part of ancient art. The historical monuments with the most widespread ancient paintings and stone inscriptions, petroglyphs, are worthy of attention as they are located in the Tashkent oasis.

The total number of pictures and inscriptions found on rocks in the Tashkent oasis has exceeded ten thousand. These priceless material resources are distinguished not only by their number, but also by their chronological coverage, the variety of themes, the uniqueness of each image, artistic level and majesty. Some of the rock paintings around Tashkent are unique among the petroglyphs found in many regions of Central Asia.

Scientists have identified rich sources of ancient rock paintings with common and unique features from this area. These include petroglyphs found in Khojakent, Karaqiyasoy, Bashkizilsoy, Chotkal, Parokandasoy, Ohangaron and other regions.

## 2. Styles and level of learning:

The article is covered on the basis of generally accepted historical methods - historicity, comparative-logical analysis, sequence, and impartiality principles, and it describes the rock paintings found in the Tashkent region, their history, content, the uniqueness of each image, the history of the regions where the rock paintings were found, not only. The role of rock paintings in the history of the Tashkent oasis of Tashkent region is shown.

The ancient stone inscriptions and pictures found in the Tashkent oasis were found during the archaeological excavations in the upper reaches of the Chirchik River in the early 50s of the 20th century.

Researcher-archaeologist H. Alpisboev heard from the representatives of the local population that the traces of the legendary horse of Caliph Ali - Duldul were left on the rocks, and began



to study the rock paintings. The animal depicted in the rock paintings is identified as a mountain sheep, a trace of the archaic kings of the Burama. This is its research as a result scientist this on the ground 23 photos found note is enough. This picture's head findings with compared to this findings from AD previous I saying that it belongs to the millennium passes [1].

In 1958, a huge collection of petroglyphs was found by T. Azamkhozhaev in Bostonliq district of Tashkent region. According to the information given by the author about this find, there are more than 250 rocks depicting animals such as mountain sheep, mountain goats, deer, dogs, wild beasts, horses on the top and southern slope of the mountain 18-20 kilometers north of the village of Chimboyliq, which is located in the upper reaches of the Uzunsoy river. Tablets were found. In addition to various animals, the found rock-plates also depict other situations such as hunting, driving cattle, and attacks by predators. The researcher studied more than 30 rocks with such images and photographed them. About the period of appearance of rock paintings, T. Azamkhozhaev says, "According to the preliminary data, the pictures we studied correspond to the period of the Bronze Age and the first Sakas, that is, the end of the II century - the beginning of the I century BC."

Based on the need to study historical monuments in the Tashkent oasis, archaeological expeditions were organized in the 60s of the 20th century. This expedition recorded many rock paintings in the basin of Piskom, Koksuv, Chotkal, Chimyon rivers, as well as in Karasuv, Kungara mountains, Ohangaron, Arashansoy valley and other regions of Tashkent region.

Archaeologist A. Kabirov discovered several sets of ancient rock paintings in the area of the Chotkal mountain range. One such find is the petroglyphs found in Bashkizilsoy. They are located on the western slope of the Chotkal ridge, near the village of Nevich, 25-30 km from Parkent, on the right bank of Bashkizilsoy [2].

O. M. Rostovtsev found several petroglyphs on the south-eastern slope of the Chotkal ridge, in the Ohangaron river valley [3]. These pictures were studied by J. Kabirov and M. M. Khojanazarov in 1966-1967 [4].

### **3. Research results:**

Khojakent is believed to be an ancient settlement located 70 km northeast of Tashkent. The rock on which the photos are shown is located on the left bank of the Chirchik River, on the western slope of the Chotkal ridge. The valley of Chirchik river begins from this place. A spring flowed near the rock. This spring is considered holy to this day.

The pictures in Khojakent are carved on a steep limestone rock 12.5 meters high and 18 meters long. The rock surface faces north-west towards Chirchik river. Most of the pictures are at the bottom of the rock, at a height of about a man's height. The surface of the rock has been greatly eroded under the influence of various factors. Initially, many pictures and signs were reflected on the surface of the rock. Pictures that are very close to each other overlap. In addition, along with clearly visible pictures on rock, there are also pictures that have become unknown. From this, scientists came to the conclusion that these rock paintings were drawn in different periods. Here you can find mainly vague images of various animals. Pictures in Khojakent are displayed in outline, silhouette, and line-drawing form. There are also pictures of human figures on rocks [5].

The Khojakent rock paintings and petroglyphs are mostly created in the same style. First, the outer part of the human and animal body was marked, and then it was completely carved. Most of the pictures were drawn with stone tools, less with metal tools. Most of the images have smooth surfaces [6].



Khojakent petroglyphs, which cover many areas of the life of our ancient ancestors, first of all, attract attention with the variety of subjects. Many pictures are remarkable for their high artistic skill.

This monument of material culture differs from the petroglyphs found in the Western Tianshan Mountains by the breadth of the historical period. Its oldest layer acquired an eneolithic character and was built in 1000 BC. It belongs to the first half of IV - III millennia. Some rock paintings found in Khojakent belong to the Bronze Age ( 2nd millennium BC), and most of the paintings belong to the Scythians ( 1st century BC) period [7].

The study of rock paintings found in Khojakent shows that most of them are painstakingly executed and clearly depicted. Such images were probably created with the help of two tools (one set on stone, the other hammered). Other relatively crude images are carved using a single tool. Each piece of equipment can be clearly distinguished by its shape and size.

Qizilsoy (Boshqizilsoy) (Uzbek Qizilsoy, Qizilsoy - "red river") is a mountain river in the Parkent and Upper Shirchik districts of Tashkent region, the left tributary of the Left Bank Karasuv. In its upper reaches there is Bashkizilsoy (Uzbek Bashqizilsoy, Boshizilsoy).

The length of the river is 54 km, the catchment area is 363 km<sup>2</sup>. Seasonal changes in the water level are observed. Kyzilsoy is filled with water from February to March, and the months of August and September have the least water period.

Archaeologist A. Kabirov discovered several sets of ancient rock paintings, distinguished by their uniqueness, in the area of the Chotkal mountain range. One such find is the petroglyphs found in Bashkizilsoy. They are located on the western slope of the Chotkal ridge, near the village of Nevich, 25-30 km from Parkent, on the right bank of Bashkizilsoy.

The petroglyphs in Bashkizilsoy are carved on the smooth surface of steep, lateral and oblique rocks. They are very diverse in terms of subject matter, performance style and size of pictures. Scenes of sacrifice and other images are common among them. Heavenly symbols are also noted in the pictures here. There are also scenes of hunting alone and in groups, driving animals, leopards attacking mountain goats, and dancing. Especially, the very attractive depiction of monsters attracts attention.

Analysis of petroglyphs indicates displacement of traces both in individual paintings and in groups of paintings. In particular, the same type of traces left by equipment in Bashkizilsoy is almost never found. This situation should be explained by the shape of the equipment and the impact force. Many of the images show small, circular, ball-shaped, and curved marks. And on the contrary, it is large and thick and long in the form of traces less occurs. Of these all of them pictures drawing for of metal made equipment used confirms. These pictures chronological in terms of from AD previous VII - II centuries between created With them side by side and near around different to periods about archaeological memorials found

Photos of rocks comfortable smooth to the surface drawn is mainly water sources - stream and springs around aggregated. Petroglyphs to each other relatively near is located four point a - Zagdaksoy, Jartoshsoy, Urayliksoy and In Tutliso found Theirs in all goats, camels, dogs, horses, predators and People's behavior is reflected delivered pictures main place occupies Some are in the Arabic alphabet done ethnographic records to the eye thrown away of photos most of them good saved, however some of them decay for sure evaluation enable does not give Photos natural under the influence of events polished rocks to the surface silhouette, outline and line q- line in the form of done Iron man river in the valley petroglyphs drawing style with from each other indistinguishable. All pictures to carve tools using drawn, their

form, used from tools the rest traces almost the same. Oh n garondi rock pictures AD the first to the century concerned the fact that determined.

In 1974, on behalf of the Piskom archaeological team, rock paintings were found in Chukursoy and Karaqiyasoy rivers and in the place called Kul. In the course of research carried out during the following decades, ancient rock paintings were discovered in a number of locations of this region, distinguished by the richness of the subject, originality of plots and high artistic aspects. They are located in a beautiful gorge 2500 meters above sea level. Here, pictures of people, mountain goats, mountain sheep (archars), oxen, camels, horses, dogs, wild animals, snakes and various symbols were found on the smooth surface of black sandstone and granite. The group scenes in the photos are more colorful. According to their essence, they can be divided into two groups. People leading camels and horses, horsemen, and archers are depicted in simple composition pictures. Scenes such as hunting, caravans, carriages, and dance can be seen in pictures with complex composition. Scenes related to household life and rituals are also often found in these pictures. These pictures attract attention as they almost completely reflect the animal world characteristic of these mountains. It is interesting to note that there are also a lot of symbols of the stars, which are characteristic of the highlands of Asia and Europe [8].

Rock paintings similar to petroglyphs found in Sarmishsoy and other regions of Uzbekistan were found on the relatively smaller rocks in Karakiyasoy. Randomly arranged pictures sometimes overlapped. The fact that the rock paintings here were drawn with different types of equipment indicates that they were created in different styles. Pictures in the style of fine dot engraving are more painstakingly and delicately executed than images with large dots. Some pictures, darkened by the desert wind, are difficult to distinguish from the color of the stone. The oldest rock paintings here date back to the 2nd century BC. However, among the rock paintings found in Karaqiyasoy, there are also paintings from the Saka period, which are distinguished by their delicacy and charm. In most cases, the pictures are made in the style of silhouettes and contours with small stones or carvings. Later, in particular, images of the period of the formation of the nomadic civilization can be found here.

Teraklisoi paintings - images made on rocks in the Chotkal mountain range (Teraklisoi shores). It is located in Parkent district of Tashkent region. It was discovered in 1963 by geologist A. Agaponov and T. Esipov, director of the Chotkal mountain forest reserve. It was studied by A. Kabirov in 1966. Teraklisoy paintings are made with simple lines, shapes, and shadows. Man, arxar, mountain goat, wolf. there is an image of a snake, a wheel-shaped sun, a bow and arrow, and other objects. Scenes associated with hunting, dancing, and religious rituals are depicted, both single and multi-faceted. The main part of Teraklisoy's paintings dates back to mil.av c. Created in the 2nd half of the 1st millennium, most of them are elegant and have human and animal parts in proportion to each other.

#### **4. Conclusion:**

In short, the rock paintings of the Tashkent oasis occupy a special place in the Central Asian rock art system with their artistic and scientific value.

As an art monument, rock paintings are a valuable resource for studying the life, culture, beliefs, customs and ancient history of the ancient highlanders.

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