

Historical Geography of Yakkabog District

B. Karimov

Karshi State University teacher

Abstract: This article examines the formation of the Yakkabog principality, one of the ancient cultural centers of the Kashkadarya oasis in the southern part of Uzbekistan, its socio-economic life, population, historical geography during the reign of Ashtarkhanids and Mangits on the basis of historical sources and research.

Keywords: avakli seed, kenagas, Karabakh, Beklartepa, Kenagas, Mangit, Province, principality, gate Bobo Shadi, amlok, castle, pass.

Yakkabog is bordered by Shakhrisabz in the north, Kamashi in the south and Chirakchi in the west, and covers an area of 1,100 square kilometers. In the far eastern part of the territory of Yakkabog district there are the south-western branches of the Gissar mountain range, the height of which is 2500 km. These networks are called Beshnov, Chakchar, Khantakhta. The mountain ranges descend to the west and join the plain.

If we look at the period of formation of Yakkabog region, the emergence of Yakkabog region dates back to the Ashtarkhanid period (first half of the XVIII century). When the Kenagas and Mangits settled in Shakhrisabz province, the Taka, Yakkabag, and Surkhob regions of the province were taken over by representatives of the Avakli clan. The Avakli clan is mentioned in some historical sources as a branch of the Kenagas people.

The period of formation of the Yakkabog region is directly connected with the resolute activity of Qasimbi, who came from the Chaghar branch of this tribe. Qasimbi Muhammad Rahimkhan Mangit (1715-1759) ruled Yakkabog until he conquered Shahrisabz province. Around 1755, he and a number of his relatives crossed over to Gissar. By this time, power had passed to Muhammad Amin. The Awaqis, led by Qasimbi, did not stay long in Gissar, and a dispute broke out between the tribal leaders, who returned to their homeland, Yakkabog, to restore relations and prestige among the Qasimbi tribes.

After the death of Muhammad Rahimkhan Mangit, the central government of Bukhara weakened again. The new and enthusiastic governor of Shakhrisabz, the famous Beknazar Devonbegi, will appear in the political arena. He tried to pursue an independent policy, disobeying the central government, which passed into the hands of his relatives (mangits), who became uncompromising rivals.

Yakkabog, on the other hand, was already a region with an administrative system that was ruled by Qasimbi Avakli and his descendants. As the Awaqis were a large branch of the Kenagas tribe, the chiefs of the Yakkabog and Shahrisabz principalities often tried to live in political alliance. Although Yakkabog was weaker than Shakhrisabz, it had become an independent province.

The Yakkabog fortress, the center of the principality, has played an important role as a strategically important city of the Bukhara Emirate since that time. The hunter crossed the shortest road - Tashkurgan pass.

Yakkabog Fortress is now called Eski Yakkabog by the locals. Its transformation into a large fortress is associated with the formation of the Yakkabog region. It is located in a very convenient geographical location where roads from all the surrounding properties are interconnected. Not far away, on the east side, joins the Kyzyl-darya and Turnadarya rivers. As it bypasses the city, the Kyzyl-Darya splits into two more, the northern and western branches. Both separated parts of the river are called Kyzyl-darya. In the 19th century, the name Yakkabogdarya was added to it. Another major source of water in the oasis is the Yakkabogdarya (Kyzyl-Darya), which divides into two streams near the old Yakkabog, Karabakh (in the western direction) and Kyzyl-Suu (in the north-western direction). It joins the Tankhozdarya near the village of Rgan.

Yakkabog is 2,560 feet, 695 mm, Chirakchi is 1,820 feet, 711.3 mm, and Guzar is 1,530 feet, 718 mm high.

Until the middle of the 18th century, Yakkabog Castle was replaced by a smaller settlement. On the south side of the fortress, 150-180 meters from the Yodgor Devonbegi madrasah, the Beklartepa historical monument has been preserved. According to the analysis of archeological research, it was a small fortress in the X-XII centuries.

The rapid growth of life in the castle in the 16th century can be seen in the fact that at that time a large cemetery appeared in its west, and the historical data in the tombs.

The governors of the Yakkabog fortress, who ruled at different times, surrounded the fortress with high and thick walls in order to strengthen the protection of the fortress. The remains of this wall can still be seen today. According to reports, the castle covered an area of about 40 hectares. The walls were clearly formed from the second half of the 18th century to the 19th century. In the center is the arch where the bey lives and listens to the complaints of citizens.

Located on the natural hills, in the center of this unevenly built bek horde, at the highest point of the horde, was the bek's palace. There was one gate on the Horde's defensive wall and three on the city's defensive wall.

The castle is entered through the main eastern and western gates. From Kunchikar to Samak, Bozariq, Tashkurgan estates. The site of the gate is now preserved in the form of two hills. Kunbotar or Koktash leads to Chimkurgan, Guzar, Karabakh and Nasaf roads through the main gate.

In the XIX century, the city consisted of two parts - the Horde and the fortress. The horde is surrounded by a 3-row defensive wall. Located on the natural hills, in the center of this unevenly built prince's palace, at the highest point of the palace, was the prince's palace.

In 1985-86, archeological excavations were carried out by KATE members in the ruins of the Bek fortress. During the study, the entrance to the arch was explored and several rooms of the palace were opened. Excavations at excavations in various parts of the Beck Middle have shown that the area was developed for human habitation as early as the Middle Ages.

Coins and fragments of pottery of the XVIII-XIX centuries were found in the upper cultural layers of the pits². This is a testament to the economic and political position of the city of Yakkabog in these centuries. The Yakkabog Fortress was located on the plain in the lower northern part of the Bek Center. The city had caravanserais, markets, and shops. Sources say that Jews from Bukhara and traders from Baku traded in the markets.

This is evidenced by the fact that Yakkabog was an important trading city of East Kashkadarya during the period under review. Based on this, a conclusion can be drawn. The products of all the mountains and foothills around Yakkabog were delivered through Yakkabog to other cities in the oasis.

In the territory of Yakkabog there were such estates as Besharik, Samaq, Imam Yaqub, Tashkurgan, Bozariq, Bobo Shadi, Karabakh, Karayogoch, Diyul, Hazrati Langar, Muminabad.

According to locals, there were gates named Shakhrisabz on the north side and Bobo Shodi gate on the south side. Imam Yaqub's estate passed through the Shahrisabz Gate, and the road leading to this estate passed through the Shahrisabz and Bobo Shadi's gates.

If we pay attention to the main occupations of the population of Yakkabog principality, from ancient times, due to the geographical location and climatic features of the place, the main occupations were engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry. Crops and orchards are maintained by irrigation. Studies have shown that the history of artificial irrigation facilities dug for agricultural purposes in the area goes back three thousand years. Due to the hot and sometimes arid climate, water is highly valued by the population.

At the same time, the population of the region used not only artificial irrigation facilities, but also river water flowing around the area for farming and gardening. Kyzyl-darya is the largest river in the region, starting from the high snowy peaks of the Gissar Mountains, glaciers and snow on the eastern side of Tashkent. It is also found in ancient sources under names such as Surkhob and Surrud. It is also known that the Langardarya, Turnadarya and Guldarya rivers have been the main sources of agricultural and horticultural development of the principality.

The period under consideration also shows that the Yakkabog principality was one of the important trade centers of East Kashkadarya. In addition, fruits and vegetables grown in Yakkabog were delivered not only to the bazaars of the principality, but also to the markets of other cities of the oasis.

In general, during the Ashtarkhanid and Mangit dynasties, the Yakkabog principality and adjacent estates were among the main economic centers of the Kashkadarya oasis. The area consisted of a fortress, a fortress and a rabad surrounded by a defensive wall. In addition to the fortress, the cities are home to a number of public and religious facilities, including mosques, markets, shops, baths, caravanserais, and more. In such cities of the Kashkadarya oasis, as well as in Bukhara and Samarkand, there are several dozen handicraft guzars, where the majority of the city's population lives. The main source of income for the people of the city is agriculture, animal husbandry and trade, which is also explained by the fact that the oasis is the economic base and is located in a convenient geographical area.

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