

DESCRIPTION OF THE HANDICRAFT INDUSTRIES OF THE CITY OF KARSHI IN THE 19TH CENTURY

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ABSTRACT

Our nation has created priceless works of art in the field of traditional crafts during its centuries-long history. Even today, they cover all aspects of the cultural life of the Uzbek people and show how profound the worldview and national thinking of the local people are.

The historical architectural monuments built in the cities of the Kashkadarya oasis, especially in the city of Karshi, the unique examples of material culture, which are unique masterpieces of our history, testify to the lifestyle, culture and creative potential of our ancestors. Researching them allows to get more information about the craft centers in Karshi, which is one of the largest cities of the Bukhara Emirate, about the specific economic, social and cultural life of the oasis, national traditions, and the level of development

Keywords: Nakhshab, Nasaf, sardine, Chorsu, Great Silk Road, carpentry, money changer, tannery.

Introduction

The city of Karshi has historically been considered one of the important craft centers of the Kashkadarya oasis. In ancient times it was called Nakhlab or Nasaf. It was studied by archaeologists such as Masson. The word Nakhlab was first found in the territory of present-day Afghanistan and was mentioned in an Aramaic document written in 328 BC. It was reported that Hulma Bagavand governor sent his soldiers to repair the defensive walls of Niksap (Nakhlab) and Kish (Kesh). As a result of archaeological research on the history of the city of Karshi, the city, the oasis ruler's palace, the city eham, dahma, mausoleum, potters, remains of blacksmiths' neighborhoods and others were found here. The finds of Yerkurgan (located in the area of the present-day Shaikhali station, one and a half kilometers from the northern borders of the administrative region of the modern city of Karshi) confirm the information about the extensive trade and diplomatic relations of the Sogdians, known to us from written sources.

In the written sources, it is mentioned that the large and strong fortress built in Nakhlab in the IV-V centuries became the capital city of the oasis in the VII-VIII centuries. From the 9th - 10th centuries, Nasaf is remembered as one of the flourishing medieval cities.

During this period, Karshi was located on the Bukhara-Balkh caravan route. The city had a fortress and a rampart, and the city was surrounded by a defensive wall with four gates.¹

In the 13th century, when the Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan captured the city, it was burned and completely destroyed. According to historians, the new Karshi The creation of the city is connected with the activity of Kepek Khan (1318-1326). In the 14th century, 5 km north of ancient Nasaf - on the site of the current city of Karshi, a palace was built by Kepekhan, a member of the Chigatai clan, and the foundation of a new city was laid Already in the 16th century, the last Shaybanis, built a number of new

buildings in the city - a madrasa, a mosque, caravanserais, a cistern, baths, and a domed trade building - Chorsu, bazaars, and a bridge over Kashkadarya.

According to Mahmud bin Wali, this big and well-organized city was equal to the big cities of the world. In the studied period, the city of Karshi consisted of three parts in terms of its structure, typical of the cities of Central Asia. The city center was surrounded by a wall in the shape of an irregular square, and it had one guard gate. The Horde occupied an area of 2.5 hectares and was larger than the Horde of Shakhrisabz and the Arch of Bukhara.

Russian researchers who were in the city of Karshi during Tsarist Russia expressed different opinions about the structure of the city. For example, in 1841-1842, the orientalist N. Khanikov, who visited the Bukhara Emirate with a number of ambassadors to fulfill important assignments, wrote in his book «Description of the Bukhara Khanate» about the structure of the city of Karshi as follows: The city has a common center and is surrounded by 3 walls. The first surrounded the horde from the old city, the second surrounded the old city, that is, the fortress, and the third surrounded the new city-fortress. There were houses of class people, a multi-stall charsu market, and settlements for caravans.⁶

Research Materials and Methodology

Around the city, thick parks have been built, among them are the summer courtyards of the city's rich people, houses of local residents, markets, public buildings such as baths, mosques. Like a number of large cities of the Bukhara Emirate, the city of Karshi is divided into handicraft guzars. Twenty guzars were found in the old part of Karshi. The city guzars are as follows: Mirdush, Mirzolat, Aghalik, Chubin, Khanago, Harrot, Sharshara, Beklarbegi, China, Uyuyma, Eshonguzar, Kazikhona, Haramsaray, Darvozai Tutak, Boyguzar, Mirzolatif, Khalvogar, Temurchi, Kuloli, Chilangaron. Also, there are 8 guzars around the old city, which are much bigger than the city guzars and are called mahallas. According to historical documents, in the middle of the 19th century, the number of madrasahs in Karshi was 4, and the number of mosques (including those in inner and outer neighborhoods) was approximately 80. At the end of the 19th century, the number of houses in Karshi guzars was 2.5-3 thousand, and the population reached approximately 15-18 thousand⁷. According to Russian researchers and tourists, representatives of the Mangit clan made up the majority of Karshi Uzbeks.

By the beginning of the 19th century, the population of Karshi increased and the city expanded, gradually increasing the number of markets, shops, mosques and other public buildings, and a new city appeared. In this outer city-fortress, mainly artisans settled³. There is no information about the wall around it in written sources and archaeological research works.⁹

Thus, the fortress of Karshi passed from the fortress wall to Kashkadarya extended to the bridge. According to the information, a solid stone road was built from the bridge to the territory of the old city. The local population living in the vicinity of the city is divided into a territorial division unique to the city of Karshi, i.e. el. There are two of them, and in turn, several neighborhoods and villages are united around these lands and named after the address of the largest population. The number of neighborhoods located in the Karshi fortress was 8. These are: Charmgar, Korgoncha, Zog'za, Buzrugravot, Besh-gumbaz, Makhsumovot, Karluqkhana, Arabkhana or Qumrabot.¹⁰ Guzars located in the upper class in the city center were not included in this division. The el was ruled by an elder, just as in craft guilds. The goldsmiths of Karshi were the majority not only in the outskirts of the city, but also in the guzars inside the city. Among them, the Guzari of the Rich, the Haramsaray, and the Guzari of the Jewelers were considered. After the neighborhoods, there are districts connected to many gardens,

vineyards, fields and estates. According to B. Litvinov, «in the middle of the 19th century, there were about 60 of them, and they are so densely located that it is difficult to say where the gardens begin and end. The people of Karshi and its surroundings are famous for their textile products. Karshi artisans engaged in several types of textiles, including spinning yarn, weaving various fabrics, sewing ready-made clothes, weaving carpets, rugs, etc.¹¹

More fota and olacha were produced in Zogza. The residents of Makhsumovot Guzari were engaged in the production of silkworms, silkworm breeding, and silk thread production. In particular, spun yarn and various carpets were produced by herdsmen in the deserts around Karshi (Qamashi and Chirakchi). These textile products were popular not only in the markets of Karshi, but also in the markets of Samarkand, Bukhara, Boysun, Shahrisabz, Hisar and neighboring countries. In Karshi markets, there are separate stalls for carpets and stalls for wholesale trade. Carpets with thin strips specially made to strengthen the grasses of the nomads were also sold at separate stalls. The production of tannery products is also well established in Karshi, and the residents of Charmgar Guzari are mainly engaged in this craft. Residents of Buzrug Ravat Guzari produced a special type of tanning products - kemkhut leather.

Discussion

Blacksmithing, carpentry (carpentry), blacksmithing, coppersmithing, pottery, confectionery, and oil products production have also developed in Karshi. Karshi potters were skilled in making «very thin vessels of various shapes».

The confectioners of Karshi were no less than the confectioners of Bukhara and Samarkand. F. Beneveni (18th century) wrote that the people near Karshi collected «manna» similar to sugar and used it as sugar in the preparation of sweets. The people engaged in the above-mentioned types of crafts lived in the guzar named after that type of craft.

In addition, the city of Karshi is one of the centers of livestock trade, which supplies various branches of crafts with various raw materials, and the livestock supplied by the herdsmen living in the deserts of Karshi were exported to neighboring districts. For example, it was found that there were several livestock markets in Guzor even in those times.

There was also a rental of horse-carts and camels for caravans. Markets, which determine the position of cities in the country, were considered its beauty. In the Emirate of Bukhara, including the oasis of Karshi, bazaars are located in the central part of the city in a densely populated area, where jewelers, money changers, blacksmiths, various clothes and other handicraft goods are sold. Handicraft markets are located. Markets specializing in the sale of certain types of agricultural and livestock products were often located on the outskirts of the city and outside it.

Large bazaars were called «chorsu» during this period, and they were usually built at the intersection of two roads and covered with a dome. M. Meyendorff, a tourist who visited the cities of the Bukhara Emirate in the middle of the 19th century, expressed the following thoughts about them: «There are such intersections that are covered with domes supported by strong pillars. They traded in dyed silk embroidery, embroidered caps, ribbons, carpets, knives and other items.»¹²

Most of the city's market stalls are located on the northern side of the fortress. The largest bazaars of Karshi - Urokenbazar are located in the south of the castle and Kuyibozor in the north. Market days are Mondays and Saturdays. Orientalist N. Khanikov, who was in Karshi in 1841, wrote that there were three large caravansary in the city, one of which belonged to Jews. H. Vamberi, who visited Karshi in

1863, wrote that there were 10 caravansary here, where wholesale trade of imported products was carried out and various trade agreements were concluded. P.I. According to Demezov, «On the contrary... the caravansary of Bukhara and Khiva were full of imported goods.»³ Smaller caravansary located in and around the city were stopped by mainly poor travelers and small merchants carrying goods on their camels.

The first reason for the rise of the city of Karshi was its location on the Herat-Kabul central trade route, one of the intersections of the Great Silk Road, and the second reason was the peaceful conditions in the oasis. The crisis in the socio-economic life of the country in the 18th century had a negative impact on the development of craft centers. The crisis of central cities led to the improvement of the socio-economic life of secondary cities. The city of Karshi is one of those cities. Here there were favorable conditions for the peaceful work of artisans who came from the restless central cities in search of safety. In addition, the city of Karshi was considered a political stronghold of the emirs of Bukhara in the fight against the rebel strongholds of Shahrisabz and Hisar. Therefore, according to the words of the English tourist A. Burns, Karshi was not inferior to Samarkand and Balkh in terms of the size of the city and its crowded markets¹³

Conclusion

In this article, in the 19th century, the city of Karshi developed as a center of handicrafts, and artisans played an important role in the economic life of the city. The main craft sectors were textile processing, metalworking, woodworking, pottery, and leather goods production. These industries also influenced the trade development of the city. Karshi crafts have become important not only for the domestic market, but also in trade with neighboring regions and countries. Thus, in the 19th century, the city of Karshi was formed as one of the major craft centers within the Bukhara Emirate. Based on the information of foreign ambassadors, about the types of handicraft industry of Karshi province, its specific aspects, stages of development, handicrafts, under the jurisdiction of Bukhara Emirate.

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