THE HISTORICAL STUDIES ON SHRINES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP IN KHOREZM OASIS
(30-80 years of the twentieth century)

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Abstract

The article is devoted; study the history of a place of pilgrimage of the Khorezm oasis in scientific works, scientists with the 30-80 years XX century. The article examines chronologically the works of ethnographers and archaeologists of the Soviet period.

Keywords: Historiography, Archeology, Places Of Pilgrimage, A Legend, An Architectural Structure, A Religious Monument, Epigraphy, Scientific, Atheistic

Foreword: History is the mirror of the development of society and human life. This is for wise reason. As the success of the previous day wouldn’t be achieved without the lesson in self-realizing the ground for a solid future laid by the ancestors and without difficulty1. Manuscripts written down by many historians and works belonging to different periods in the past can serve as the main source for the study of the history of our country. However, there are many other sources of material objects, coins, stamps and historical importance of architectural monuments and their records, which can support us with more complete and accurate understanding of the history of our nation.

The actuality of the subject: During the years of the independence objective values have been changed in order to study the history of attitudes, because it is not only a monument of the past, but, truthfully reveal the history of the original documents. In this respect, truly and holy depicting the history and the rich spiritual heritage of the Uzbek people, with its historical buildings and places of the history is recognized as one of the major problems of today.

The government of the former USSR, Soviet period, in accordance with the requirements of this period of history, the history was written under the influence of the dominant ideology, and it ignored the original source of the ancient look and according to the interests of the dominant ideology the historical resources not serving for the ideology were kept away from the public concern as much as possible.

Still, in this era of Khorezm oasis was studied contribution to the history by the following great scientists of ethnography and places, such as S.P.Tolstov G.P.Snesarev, V.N.Basilov, Ya.G.Gulomov, V.B.Bartold, I.M.Jabborov, G.Drevenskaya E.E.Bertel's, P.P.Ivanov, O.V.Gorsunova, L.N.Gumilyov, M.S.Andreev, Mashhurbek, O.Sodikov, B.V.Andrianov, E.V. Antonova, T.A. Jdanko and B.N.Zasipkin, M.Masson.

The contents of the matter: From early times the pilgrimages were the most important places in the lifestyle of the local population living in the Khorezm oasis. The article is related to the shrines in the period with the 30-80 years XX century, the literature dedicated to the historiography of the Khorezm oasis.

Depending on the subject it is desirable to divide these works written during the study period into two main types, works based on scientific and atheistic views.

Scientific works: There were many publications based on scientific concepts by the scientists during the Soviet regime. The scientific literature about the architecture and formation processes, in which the origin of the ceremony held in Khorezm places bring us some of the archaeological researches and studies related to coverage.

However, they have not been thoroughly studied scientifically. We study the period, which most of the main historical, ethnographic and scientific works created on the basis of the communist

and atheistic ideas. In this period, even the majority of the work relating to the influence of the ruling ideology has been rejected, in some studies, the religion, religious practices and traditions related to the analysis of the fundamental principles mustn’t be rejected.

In this S.P.Tolstov, G.P.Snesarev, Ya.G.Gulomov, V.V.Bartold I.Jabborov, P.P.Ivanov, B.V.Andrianov, K.L.Zadzina, I.S.Tolstova, and V.N. Basilov were contributing scientists, covering the study of the history and ethnography of the Khorezm oasis and carried out the research on the theoretical and methodological aspects of the problem.

XX century Khorezm shrines were studied in many cases, in terms of architecture and archaeology. For example L.Yu. Mankovskaya, V.A.Bulatova, I.I.Notkin, Yu.V.Steblyuk, E.E.Nerazik dealing with the works and the construction of places of worship, mainly in terms of archaeological research.

For example L.Yu. Mankovskaya and V.A.Bulatovalar in their work focus the attention of the location of existing places of worship and the construction of places of worship, and they have some historical information about Khorezm region.

While the documents stored in the archives of the study and they wrote them on the basis of scientific analysis of this scientific investigations and gave objective coverage of the realities of today. The archeological-ethnographic expedition leader S.P.Tolstov and his fellow B.A.Andrianov M.V.Sazonova, A.I.Trenoikin, A.Yu.Yakubovskiy, a first archaeologists Ya.G.Gulomov made their great contribution to the studies of the worship places in Khorezm oasis.

The fundamental research ‘History of Khorezm irrigation’ by the academicians Ya.G.Gulomov after arriving in some places focused on interesting information about the ancient fortresses and


their construction and on the surrounding cemeteries ("Norinjonbobo," Sultan Uvays, Suleiman Haddodiy and Sayid Ota, Orolcha Avliyo (Saint small island) in Hazorasp district and Sheikh Mukhtar Valiy).

The cult of the patron of the Amu-Darya river Hubby was deeply analyzed in the process of studying the problem of "History of Khorezm irrigation" by the scientists\(^\text{16}\).

Only ethnographer scientist G.P.Snesarev conducted the specific research on Khorezm. Covering the basic research in the field of ethnographic aspect he structured the worship places and their ceremonies, religious beliefs in the oasis in the works\(^\text{17}\). Even if G.P.Snesarev’s works were based on the ideology of those times, they were the ones which were the beginning of the scientific analysis of the places.

In 70 years of the twentieth century, in the process of studying epigraphic records many scientists of archaeology and art had the opportunity to learn the history of the cemetery and mausoleums.

Enough attention was paid to the study of history while studying the architectural monuments, epigraphic scriptures and religious monuments of the places of Khorezm oasis by Ya.G. Guliamov\(^\text{18}\), the L.I. Rempel, N.N. Vakturskaya

Atheistic works: As well as the literature with the atheistic views based on scientific concepts were also available in the Soviet period. A. Raxmanov S. Yusupov S.M. Demidov J. Bozorboev and others\(^\text{19}\) had the atheistic ideology that view the Khorezm oasis places with negative comments reflected in the works about the harmful habits as a source of opium and unease during the Soviet period. These places of worship and places of the Khorezm oasis A. Raxmanov and S. Yusupov\(^\text{20}\) covering the history of in the book primitive religious beliefs backlogs surviving the religion of Islam, as well as the cost of their local efforts will be made to reveal the basis of the facts. Although the booklet was written basing on Soviet ideology, it was of critical analysis with much information and legends from atheistic point of view and it was for the first time in the Khorezm oasis places. Brochure consecrated the salt deposits and the healing springs and reflected them from the point of view of time.

Conclusion: In conclusion, it should be noted that sometimes the written sources related to the places of origin were influenced by the interest and demand of the ideology of the ruling circles. The sources of information about the places of the Khorezm oasis show that the subject is still in need for studying. Because of the atheistic policy of the Soviet era not only the places, but the written sources related to them were damaged in serious. As a result, the written sources on the history of Khorezm oasis graveyards may have deliberately destroyed. We have analyzed the studies carried out in the years of 1930-1980, which is the scientific activities of some religious monuments, places of marginalized, the survived study results reflected the point of view of that period. However in a number of places although the above mentioned research works were watered with the spirit of the time, as the historical documents they had the evidence-based data and their interpretation of the objective should have been recognized.

Recommendations: It is important to evaluate the most important scientific results and disadvantages on the shrines on basis of objective scientific criteria in the Soviet period. As in general, it is necessary to speak about the most important achievements and shortcomings while speaking about the literature of each period.

Reference


