



## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS IN GENGHIS KHAN**

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<b>Article history:</b>	<b>Abstract:</b>
<b>Received:</b> September 10 <sup>th</sup> 2021 <b>Accepted:</b> October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2021 <b>Published:</b> November 22 <sup>th</sup> 2021	The article provides a scientific analysis of the results of archeological excavations on Genghis Khan, one of the most famous monuments of Bactria in antiquity, ie Greece, Bactria and the Kushan Empire, and scientific analogies of material culture.
<b>Keywords:</b> Genghis Khan, archeological researches, temple, castle, palace, chronology, construction, defense structures, scientific analogy, synchronous counting, Old Termez, Pandakion, Oykhanum, Greek Bactria, Kushan period.	

### **INTRODUCTION**

Archaeological excavations at the Chingiz-Tepa monument have been carried out since 2006. In the middle of these years, the chronology of the monument, the periods of construction, the purpose, their significance were highlighted. The main purpose of the Uzbek-French Bactrian expedition was to localize the monument "Chingiz-Tepa 2" on the banks of the Oxus-Amu Darya. These researches made it possible to determine the presence of a palace in the monument, which is connected with the temple. It was also revealed that both parts of the monument are bordered by a 12-meter-wide trench. The cities of the Greek Bactrian period in northern Bactria, especially the Pandahion tribes of Tarmita and Kampirtepa, are protected by strong defensive walls, towers and ditches. (Pugachenkova G.A, Rtveladze E.V.1990. pp.82-83).

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

As a result of archeological excavations, objects related to the three views of the monument: temples, palaces and defense structures were excavated, which determined the future plans of the expedition. This part of the monument, called Chingiztepa 2, is a large structure located on the banks of the Amu Darya. Considering that its upper part was severely damaged due to damage by powerful mechanical equipment, the expedition has been devoting all its scientific potential to the study of this monument since 2005.

The part of the monument, which we call the "palace", is very dilapidated and covers an area of 50x70 m. Excavations have shown that this large structure has many interior rooms and courtyards. They are located on both sides of a long and majestic corridor, located in a west-easterly direction and 3 meters wide.

The rooms are built from the central corridor to the west, facing the river. The great hall to the east was almost completely destroyed. The length of the central corridor is 15 meters, and six consecutive thresholds and doors have been identified (Kholikov ZE Penjikent. 2019. №2, pp.625-628). Although the upper horizon of the monument is about the Khorezmshahs period, fragments of architectural details of the Greek period have been found in many of its lower layers. Coins of the Kushan-Sassanid period were found in the upper layer of the central corridor of the monument. The fact that the material culture of the ancient period is reflected in a single part of the corridor indicates that there was a magnificent palace of ancient Termez. The walls of the corridor were plastered more than 20 times, which means that the palace was repeatedly used by the rulers of that time. (Kholikov ZE Penjikent., 2019. №2, pp.625-628). Archaeological excavations in 2015 focused on the main entrance to the palace. As a result of the excavations, we witnessed that this part of the monument was used for other purposes in the Middle Ages. A medieval pottery kiln was found on the west side of the limestone threshold of the majestic gate of the central entrance. Various pieces of medieval pottery were found in this furnace. Even in the Middle Ages, the discovery of such furnaces outside the Old City of Termez confirms that they lasted until the Timurid period. Built in the western part of the corridor, the depth of the furnace is 1.20-1.50 meters and the sides are 3x3.5 meters. Its construction caused severe damage to the houses and buildings around the corridor of the ancient palace. The furnace was excavated to the mainland sandstone layer. Its construction completely destroyed the stairs of the entrance and the decorated interior of the existing structure. This study made it possible to find the foundation of the main portal, located on the western boundary of the access road.



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

We can also observe a scientific analogy of the foundation of the building and the limestone kiss on it, which does not prove it, at the entrance to the Aikhanum Palace in Afghanistan. So, the foundation of the ancient palace of Termez and these limestone architectural details belong to the Hellenistic culture.

In addition, the beautiful stone blocks found in the corridor and lined with limestone, and the lines carved on the outside of them, and the acanthus flower show the high level of development of the art of stone carving. These findings indicate that Termez was the center of Hellenistic stone carving of the Greeks and Greco-Bactrians. The limestone capitals and pillars of antiquity are also characteristic of the ancient city of Bactria in Afghanistan. The raw material for such stone works of art was brought from Old Termez by water transport from the Khoja-Gulsuar settlement on the right bank of the Amu Darya. There is a large limestone deposit found by ancient stonemasons. Arrival and transfer of the findings of the Chingiz-Tepa 2 monument to the Termez Archaeological Museum, placement in reserve funds, scientific study, preparation of drawings, photography, preparation of reports The 2018 research season has begun. The main entrance to the Chingiz-Tepa 2 monument, which was discovered and preserved during the previous archeological excavations, was marked with six successive thresholds, as mentioned above. On both sides of the first threshold there are blocks of limestone. This part of the excavation was reopened and cleared, and careful observation and measurement work was carried out. As a result, it was determined that the threshold at the beginning of the entrance to the palace consists of two blocks of stone, the blocks are made of limestone, length 3.05 m, maximum width 45 cm, and maximum thickness 37 cm. The thickness of the stone blocks is 2-3 cm. Ganch is combined with an alloy. From this it is clear that these huge pieces of stone were a single whole. These blocks rest on pieces of rock mixed with soil.

When the western edge of the stone blocks was cleared of soft soil, it was discovered that it was bordered on the eastern side of the medieval kiln. The structure of the lower part of this huge rock has not been determined. This stone block is 45 cm wide at both corners. square stone tiles. At the top of the stone tiles there is a deep "G" -shaped "corridor" with a width of 8 cm. This corridor is carved in the style of carving as a special tool along the length and width of the stone. In addition, after the stone tiles, there are irregularly shaped stone blocks with a diameter of 22-24 cm. The central part of the two stone slabs used as thresholds was eroded and smoothed due to the large number of people passing by. Both sides of the stone

threshold were damaged by the collapse of the bronze bracket. Both sides of the gate were fastened to these bronze handles and passed into the two recesses mentioned above. The circular pits on both sides of the stone threshold are designed for specially installed wooden beams. In addition, there are circular patches of different diameters around the crossing. They indicate that they have re-used the entrance to the palace. The foundations of the walls are visible perpendicularly on both sides of the entrance, 2.7 meters east of Astana. To the north-west of the entrance there is a large hurricane. Flour was used to store grain. The above-mentioned medieval pottery furnace dates back to the same period. Because both of them were built by cutting the bricks of the ancient period. The limestone installed on the threshold is of the same age as the raw bricks.

The construction period at the bottom of the monument is associated with the Hellenistic period. The size of the raw bricks of this construction period was 47 cm at the beginning and 38 cm at the end. Anyone who is aware of the unaltered brick architecture of Aikhanum will then understand the authenticity of these ancient Bactrian structures (Leriche P. Paris., 1997.p.10). Hellenism and the concept of the Hellenistic period are also used to describe the culture of this period. Nowadays, foreign historiography and cultural studies are interpreted as a relatively cultural process. The interpretation of the influence of Greek culture on Central Asian culture, including Bactria, is now common to some Russian scholars. Hellenism in the full sense is a process of unification and interaction of advanced Greek culture with the cultural achievements of the peoples of the Near and Middle East (Koshalenko GA Moscow-Magnitogorsk, 2006. pp.19-20)

The stone threshold at the beginning of the corridor in the Chingiz-Tepa Palace dates back to the third stage of construction. The palace was originally from the Hellenistic period. After 1.20 meters from the stone threshold, the width of the corridor was reduced to 1.70 meters. Then, 2.50 meters from the stone threshold, the second threshold begins. The second threshold consists of two rows of bricks that are not well preserved. The width of the bricks is 25 cm. After this brick threshold, the corridor widens and reaches a width of 3 meters. The length of this part of the corridor is 2 meters. In this part of the corridor, several limestone blocks are placed opposite the walls as benches. Their arrangement is reminiscent of the seats in the waiting rooms. The stone blocks are up to 50 cm high and 2 meters long. Their decorated sides and profiles are located along the aisle. The decorative style and elegant orientation of the stones indicate that they were made by masters of the Hellenistic



school. However, this is the second time that these architectural decorations have been used not as decorative, but only as benches for the entrance to the palace. The number of these stone blocks is 10. One of them is a high relief, aquant-decorated frieze, a very elegantly designed stone block. The columns, two of which are vertical, are decorated with straight lines with relief on all four sides. Here we come across only a part of the architectural scenery used to decorate the majestic palace of the Hellenistic period. In all respects, they are identical to the Aykhanum findings in the basin of the Kokcha River in Afghanistan, which flows into the Oxus-Amu Darya. Later we will get acquainted with the interesting aspects of these findings. The second important scientific fact found here is that although these decorated stone blocks were intended to decorate the gates of the majestic palace in the monument, the fact that they were used for the second time shows that they have lost their function. In fact, the gate was built in a classical form, like the monument to Oikhanum, and was destroyed during the Sassanid period. In particular, the destruction of ancient culture by the Sassanids in the Kushan period is considered to be the removal of architectural ornaments and sculptures, the culture of Buddhism from the stage of history by the Iranian Zoroastrians (Koshalenko GA Moscow-Magnitogorsk, 2006).

On the contrary, these findings would not have been placed at the bottom of the corridor. Some of the stone blocks placed in the corridor are eroded up to 5 cm in the pedestrian part. They were buried under three floors during the construction period. The chronological chart, as determined by archeological excavations, provides very interesting information about the city and its ancient palace. We only want to mention this part of the palace, that is, the destruction of the palace and its majestic gates coincided with a severe earthquake or the conquest of Bactria by the Sassanids in the last quarter of the third century AD.

## **CONCLUSION**

In addition, we want to highlight an important fact on the site of old Termez, on the right bank of the Amu Darya, was a Greek-Macedonian city. This city is much older than Oikhanum. We hope that the ongoing research on the way to the palace will help us to solve such new problems.

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