

Analysis of Research on the History of the Origin of the Uzbek People in the “New Uzbekistan” Stage



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ABSTRACT: The article examines and analyzes the research conducted by local researchers on the history of the origin of the Uzbek people at a new stage of development of Uzbekistan. The historical dynamics of the issue is shown.

KEYWORDS: “Uzbek”, the Turks, ethnicity, ethnos, ethnogenesis, ethnic history, scientific views, concepts, historiography, ethnological research.

INTRODUCTION

The historical, political, social and cultural processes taking place in the XXI century have led to debates and conflicts on issues such as the role of peoples in world history, the history of their emergence, the region in which they live. Currently, an objective study, analysis and evaluation of the history of the Uzbek people with the help of modern research methods are of great importance. Today it is an objective study of the history of Uzbekistan, which plays an important role in the world, and relevant research work in modern history.

METHODS USED

The article is based on such methods as historical-genetic, retrospective, problem-chronological, diachronic, historical comparison, historical systematization. The study of the problem is based on the principles of objectivity, historicity, consistency, objectivity, and system analysis. At a new stage of development of Uzbekistan, such tasks as the identification of scientific views and opinions put forward by local researchers on the history of the origin of the Uzbek people, the focus on objectivity, the author’s approach to the problem have been studied historically.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The literature devoted to the study of the history of the Uzbek people during the years of independence of Uzbekistan can be divided into three chronological stages and analyzed:

- 1991 – 1998 years (early years of independence)
- 1998 – 2016 years (years of advanced research)
- 2016 research on the problem in the literature written from year to day.

From the historical, ethnographic, archeological, source studies, linguistic researches conducted in the first years of independence, it can be said that at this stage there was a scientific interest in the study of the history of the people. The study of the history, material and spiritual heritage of the Uzbek people has accelerated, and this process, of course, was driven by the goals and objectives of the state, which gained political independence. During this period, scientific considerations were not bold in solving the problem of ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people, but a research paper was written that summarized the research work up to this time [14]. On the issue, different views, approaches have emerged. In particular, there have been studies written in the style of studying the greatness of the history of the people, its origins in the distant past, the ethnos that lived in the most ancient times, and this issue has caused serious criticism by the head of state.

First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. After Karimov’s meeting with a group of historians and the media, his book “There is no future without historical memory” [7] was published. This work became the basis for the emergence of new scientific directions in the development of historical science, new views on the attitude to history. This work brilliantly

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demonstrated the new programmatic guidelines for the creation of our history, escaping the old style, and was recognized as a work that revolutionized our history. He stressed the need to cover the history of Uzbek statehood on the basis of primary sources. It was noted that in order to carry out the tasks, the institutes of History, Oriental Studies and Archeology of the Academy need to change their activities. On the basis of this work, the methods of studying the “ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people”, which is a topical issue for our historians, have changed, and a number of research papers have been published on the basis of a new approach.

One of the most urgent tasks at the level of state policy is to study the ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbeks, who are considered to be the most populous and rich ethnoculture among the peoples of Central Asia with a common historical destiny, common ethnic, cultural and socio-economic development [4 : 95]. In Islam Karimov’s works, comments on the problem are analyzed in O. Buriev’s articles co-authored with A. Hasanov and M. Usmanov [5].

From 1998 to 2016, many books on the ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people were published. There are scientifically based, historically based studies against the unscientific notion that the peoples of Central Asia, which flourished in Central Asia, originated only in their own shells. Over the years, different approaches have emerged in the study of the problem. The dynamics of the study of the problem has reached a high level. Different opinions and views on the solution of the problem were put forward. Representatives of various fields also expressed their scientific assumptions about the origin of the Uzbek people, the term “Uzbek”. During this time, there was a conflict of opinion on the subject under study, and scientists tried to prove their approaches and scientific opinions with evidence in front of science.

Following the results of elections held on December 4, 2016, Shavkat Mirziyoyev became the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Since then, the head of state has made radical changes in all areas. This gave a new impetus to development, opening Uzbekistan to the outside world. In the period from September 2016 to the present day, as in all areas, significant reforms have been carried out in the history of our people, the heritage of our ancestors, their study and transmission to the younger generation. This period, called “New Uzbekistan”, “New stage of development of Uzbekistan”, “Third Renaissance”, occupies a very important place in the history of our country, in the chain of our relations with the world community. This period is a period that has completely changed Uzbekistan, the political, social and economic relations in the life of our society, introduced our country to the world in a new, democratic way.

Today, under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan is on the path of radical reforms. The country is consistently and resolutely implementing large-scale reforms to achieve the set goals. At the same time, great attention is paid to the ancient values and history of the country.

During the new stage of development of Uzbekistan, many articles on the topic of research became popular and dissertations were defended. Scientific papers have been published with a clear approach and a theoretical conceptual framework. Researchers are now beginning to shed more light on problems in the process of a small link, a particular direction, or a chronological phase of a problem. A. Askarov’s book “The Uzbek people - the indigenous people of Central Asia from ancient Turkic languages” [3], Sh. Kamoliddin’s articles “Historical Maps of Uzbekistan” [9] and The terms “Uzbek” and “Uzbekistan” in written sources [8], A. Malikov’s articles on the classification of the Turkic-speaking population in the Middle Zarafshan oasis, Uzbek tribes, the identity of the Uzbek people [11], N. Tursunov’s “Ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people” [13], S. Ulashova’s “Kavchins in the sources of Amir Temur and the Temurids”, E. Kurbanov’s “Uzbek Turkmen Seed (on the example of Zaamin Turkmen)”, X. Otanov’s “From the history of the ethnic composition and social life of the population of the Emirate of Bukhara in the early twentieth century” and other scientific articles can be included in it.

A. Askarov writes that although the concept of national autochthonism on the origin of the peoples of Central Asia is somewhat scientifically and methodologically sound, but aimed to trace the Turkic roots of the peoples of the Turkic republics only outside Central Asia, served to describe the Turkic peoples as nomadic peoples. Contrary to popular belief, it is scientifically proven that the historical roots of the Uzbek people in the native land today are based on the original sources of material culture, ancient Chinese written sources, dating back to the Bronze Age. The notions of the two arrow roots of the Uzbek people (Turkic and ancient Iranian) are being clarified. Thoughts about his first homeland of Turkish roots are changing, and the idea that his search for an ancient Iranian root in Eastern Europe is unfounded is also finding scientific proof. In this regard, not only archeological and anthropological materials, but also data from ancient Chinese written sources, their comparative interpretation and analysis with archaeological sources reveal the historical truth [3: 3]. In A. Askarov’s research, there is a strong attempt to prove that the Uzbek people are a mixture of two different language-speaking tribes and ethnic groups. These scientific views put forward by the scientist have not been fully substantiated in science. Critical and controversial articles have been published in the form of serious objections to the scholar’s scientific views [1,2,12]. Archaeologist A. Sagdullaev has serious objections to this [12]

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Sh. Kamoliddin's research included Abraham Maas's (1700 - 1735) “Map of the Caspian Sea and the Uzbek Land” (*Tabula Nova de Mare Caspium et Usbekorum region*) in St. Petersburg in 1728, and Vasilio Vatatzis's “Caspian Sea and Aral Sea” published in London in 1732, in qua cruditis spectanda exhibetur pas Asiae [...] Tabula Maris Caspii et Maris Aral). The author notes that the nomadic Uzbek tribes from Dashti Kipchak have had political power in Central Asia since the 16th century. They adopted the high culture and literary language of the local Turkic-speaking settlers and continued the statehood traditions of the Timurids and the pre-Turkic dynasties. In the XVI-XVIII centuries, they had a single territory, a single written literary language and culture. Therefore, in the political maps and globes of that period, the country was named *Usbeck*, *Usbekia* and *Özbekistan*. In the article “The terms” Uzbek and Uzbekistan in written sources [8]. Interprets the terms “Uzbek” and “Uzbekistan” in sources such as Muiniddin Natanzhi's “Muntahab at-Tawarikh-i Mu'ini”, Fasih al-Khawafi's “Mujmal-i Fasihi”, Sharafiddin Ali Yazdi's “Zafarnoma”, Nizamiddin Shami's “Zafarnoma”, Mirzo Ulugbek's “Tarix-i arba'a ulus”, Mahmud ibn Wali's “Bahr al-asror fi manoqib al-ahyar”, “Mehmonnoma-i Bukhara” by Fazlullah Isfahani, Mirza Muhammad Haydar's “History of Rashidiy” and “Temur's Statutes”. These sources do not address the question of the origin of the people, whether it exists or not.

Coverage of the ethnic history of the bells in the ethnic history of the Uzbek people, Kungrad in historical sources and literature in the dissertation “Kungrads of Southern Uzbekistan (historical and ethnological analysis)”, which M. Usmanov defended in 2018 for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in History. theoretical and methodological views and Kungrad on the problem of ethnic history described some theoretical issues of ethnic history. The results and conclusions of this research work of the author shed more light on the problems of ethnic history of the Uzbek people, such as ethnicity, ethnocultural identity.

Researcher O. Inomov in his dissertation “Kovunchi culture and its role in the formation of the Uzbek people” [7]. On the example of Kovunchi culture, showing the historical homeland of the ancestors of the Uzbek people, the geography of territorial distribution in chronological order, studied the mixing and intermingling of the ancient Iranian-speaking Sogdian, Khorezmian and Bactrian peoples in the ethnic composition of the Uzbek people. The place and time of the first formation of the “Central Asian inter-river type” are defined, which illuminates the historical and ethnocultural processes of the Kovunchi culture and its stages, which formed the ethnic composition of the Uzbek people. Sh. Eshankulov studied the ethnic composition of the population of the Zarafshan oasis in the twentieth century on the basis of toponymic materials in his dissertation for the degree of Doctor of History in 2020 “Ethnic composition of the population of the Zarafshan oasis of the XX century (based on toponymic materials).” In this study, the importance of toponymic materials in determining the ethnic composition of the oasis population was expressed.

In recent years, the number of scientific studies directly related to the issue has decreased. Controversial debates on many aspects of the subject persist. Although there are sections on the history of the origin of the Uzbek people at major conferences, the articles focus on the problem or some aspects of it. There is no scientific research based on new methodologies on the fundamental problems of the subject.

CONCLUSION

A new era in history will inevitably bring innovations to the science of history, resulting in new views, approaches, concepts, and contradictions within the problem. In contrast to the Soviet era, in the works published during the period of independence on the ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people, one can observe new approaches and views, objections, debates and contradictions. The authors of historical, ethnographic, source studies, archeological, anthropological research on the issue in the history of the modern homeland have come to a conclusion based on their approaches. All the published scientific works, the views in which did not show a clear solution to the problem, but led to various debates, objections and critical opinions of scholars. As a result, this issue is still controversial in the eyes of science.

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