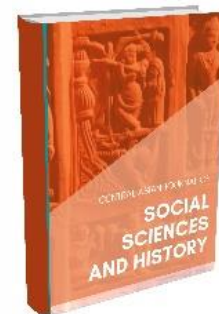




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About the Place of Ustrushona in the Political System of the Kang' Confederation, Administration and Military Affairs

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Abstract:

This article provides information on the place of Ustrushona in the political system of the Kang confederation, management and military affairs based on written and archaeological materials. During the Kang' period, the administration of Ustrushona was left under the authority of local governors, who seem to have paid regular taxes (boj) to the central government under the control of tudans appointed by the governor. The mention of Ustrushona as an independent province in Chinese sources indicates that Ustrushona had an internal administration during the Kang period. Most of the burial mounds studied in Ustrushona belong to the Kang era. In some graves in burial mounds of this period, the dead were buried "fully armed" with weapons of war next to them. Based on this information, the authors tried to justify the fact that there was an internal administration in Ustrushona and the development of the military sector.

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From the Bronze Age of ancient Ustrushona, together with the oases of Zarafshan and Tashkent and the Fergana valley, the Andronova culture formed the areas where cattle-breeding tribes spread. In the later stages, the history of these regions is also connected with tribes such as the Turks and Sakas mentioned in the written sources, because they moved in the steppes adjacent to the Syrdarya. In the sources, Kang' was called "Kangha" as the first state association by the herdsmen along the Syrdarya River, and hymns were given in his name¹. In the Avesta Yashtin's passage dedicated to the goddess Anakhita, Kankhani is mentioned not only as the first residence of the Turan chieftains, but also mentions the holy Kankhani as the political and religious center of some group of Turanian tribes. Based on this information, we can say that during the first Iron Age, nomadic cattle herders settled in the boundless steppes and borders of agricultural oases of Central Asia, including in the middle and lower reaches of the Syr Darya.

In ancient Greek sources, the union formed in the middle reaches of the Syrdarya is called "sakrauka". They united the population living in the middle reaches of the Syrdarya and several lands. Chinese authors call them kangui². In the Chinese source "Shizhi" (Historical Memories), the first information about Kangia-Kang is very short, and it states that this country (Daiyuan-Dawan) is located in the north-west, its economic basis is animal husbandry, and its customs are not different from those of Ruzie (Yuezhi). and it is emphasized that it is under the influence of the Huns to a certain extent³. The seat of the rulers of the Kang state were the cities of Bityan and Sukek, these cities are located around present-day Tashkent, the distance between them is 160-180 km.

A.B.Litvinskiy puts forward the opinion that the summer residences of the Kanguy and the capital were near Tashkent, therefore the center of the Kanguy is also the middle stream of the Syrdarya⁴. B.I. Weinberg, based on information from Chinese sources about Dawan, Yantsai, Xun, Usun, Big Yuechji and the boundaries of the areas where they settled, recorded the central part of Kang as the Lower Syr Darya, the northeastern regions of the Island⁵. In this, the "Kangyu" alliance found in Chinese sources included many tribes, as well as the Aryaks living on the eastern shores of the Island, who formed the small governorship of Kang or its main branch⁶. However, until now, the prevailing opinion is that the central areas of the Khang were in the middle of the Syr Darya.

According to Yu.F. Buryakov, Yueini (Tashkent oasis) entered Kanguy State as a small estate at first, and later became its main base⁷. Many monuments confirming this idea have been studied, which allowed to advance these ideas. This is probably why archaeologists consider the Qovunchi culture in the Tashkent oasis to be the Kanguy culture. According to the analysis of material and written sources, a new Qovunchi culture was created on the basis of local culture during the Kang period.

Archaeological research in recent years has provided new information about the history of the Kang

¹Avesta. Eight books / M. Ishakov's translation. - Tashkent: East. 2001. - B. 22-23.

²Shaniyozov K.Sh. The state of Kang and the people of Kang. - Tashkent: 1990. -B.71.

³Khojaev A. Information on the history of Fergana... - B.146.

⁴Литвинский Б.А. Джунский могильник и некоторые аспекты кангюйской проблемы // СА. Вып. 2. М., 1967.

⁵Вайнберг Б.И. Этногеография Турана в древности. VII в. до н.э. – VIII в. н.э. М.: Вост. лит. РАН, 1999. – С. 267.

⁶Вайнберг Б.И. Этногеография Турана в древности... – С.282.

⁷Буряков Ю.Ф. Генезис и этапы развития городской культуры Ташкентского оазиса. –Ташкент, 1982. – С. 18-21.

period. Among them, it is necessary to emphasize the researches in the archaeological site of Kultoba located in the territory of South Kazakhstan. In this monument, archaeologists have studied the first samples of writing from the Kang period. In this inscription, it is mentioned that the city was built by "shad", an army chief from Samarkand or Kesh (our own country). In this inscription, sentences such as "city built by shad", "tent people", "nomads", "treasury-state budget" or "city construction" related to social work, as well as dynastic terms such as "son", "servant" related to the social life of the Kang era. is available⁸. These are examples of writing (written in a different dialect of Eastern Iranian languages). It also contains information such as "the nation or country of Choch" or its northern borders up to the river Aris, and it is valuable because it serves to reveal important issues related to the country's socio-political system in general⁹. Also in this monument, the discovery of coins minted by the Kushan king Vima I, provides valuable information about the north-eastern frontiers of the Kushans reaching as far as Kang and the intense trade relations between the two countries¹⁰.

Excavations in archaeological monuments of the Kang period play an important role in studying the lifestyle of the population. Architectural remains, bone and metal objects and working tools (scythe, knife, rag), bow arrowheads, several samples of fabrics, as well as various sizes of ceramic vessels (jug, khum, palm, bowl, pitcher, persimmon, cup, corral and others) were found¹¹. Pottery is often painted with red angob, and some vessels depict animal heads.

The Kang confederation was formed in a complicated political period (the arrival of many ethnic groups, the invasion of the Greeks, etc.). Later, he was able to maintain the integrity of the country and ensure the inviolability of the country's borders through various diplomatic and military means. According to Pliny, Seleucid commander Demodamus of Miletus marched in the far northeast towards the extreme current of the Syr Darya, reached the banks of the Syr Darya with his troops, crossed the river and built a city on the right bank. The Seleucid king Antiochus 1 named the city Antioch after Yaxartus in honor of Soter¹². So, as a result of Demodam's marches, Ustrushona was also included in the Salawki state.

Kang confederate state is located in a favorable region on the border of Greco-Bactria, Parthian states and nomadic tribes living in the north. At the beginning of the 2nd century BC, their lands were somewhat expanded and bordered on the Ferghana Valley in the east, the Sarisu River in the northwest, the Syrdarya in the west, and the Usun and Yuechji tribes in the northeast. Chinese sources mention five provinces belonging to the Kangars: Suse, Fumu, Yuni, Gu, Yuechian. Researchers believe that they are located in the regions of Ancient Tashkent, Sugdiyona and Khorezm¹³. According to Chinese scholar Ablat Khojaev, there are large regions such as Mi (Maymurg), Shi (Kesh), Cao (Kebudhan, Keshbud) in the territory of the Kangia state, "these three states (dominions) were larger

⁸ Подушкин А. Кангюй в свете новых полеолингвистических, нумизматических и археологических источников // ИМКУ. Вып. 42. – Ташкент, 2022. – С. 90-105.

⁹ Alimova D.A., Filanovich M.I. TASHKENT HISTORY... - В. 23-24.

¹⁰ Подушкин А. Кангюй в свете новых полеолингвистических, нумизматических и археологических источников... – С. 90-95.

¹¹ Григорьев Г. В. Келесская степь в археологическом отношении (К истории культуры древних саков) // Известия АН Каз ССР. Вып. 1. – Алма-Ата, 1948. – С. 51.

¹² Mukhammadjonov A.R. ANCIENT TASHKENT historical and archeological records... - В. 4.

¹³ History of Uzbekistan. Textbook. R.H. Under the general editorship of Murtazaeva. - Tashkent: "Yangi asr avlodi", 2009. - В. 99-100.

than the rest and directly sent ambassadors to China"¹⁴. The territory of Kang includes the north-west of the Aral Sea and the north of the Caspian Sea (Yan and Yantsay-Sarmat).

According to E. Rtveladze, the form of government in Kang and Yuezhi was a limited monarchy. The country is composed of a confederation of independent (5) provinces, usually governed by tribal elders and able to mint their own coins. There was no common coin in the Central Government of Kang. The authorities themselves (for example, Bukhara, Samarkand) could mint coins¹⁵.

In 250 BC, after the political power was transferred to the hands of the Greek-Bactrian kings, during this period Ustrushana was subject to them only nominally, that is, it paid a certain amount of tax. In coming to such an opinion, scientists took into account the fact that the material and spiritual resources in Ustrushona have a local character and are not Hellenized¹⁶. At this time, the influence of Hellenistic culture was strong in Bactria, Sogd and Khorezm. The formation of Ustrushona culture, like ancient Fergana and Choch, was also connected with the north-east - Turkic world, and the influence of Turkic peoples was strongly felt in all periods of history.

N. According to Negmatov, Ustrushona was included in the Kushan kingdom from the 1st century AD. In this regard, archaeologist M. Paradaev, "... this idea is also controversial, in fact, at this time, Ustrushana, like Sogd, was part of the Kang alliance. Logically speaking, the thoughts of bypassing Sughd, which borders the Kushan kingdom, and adding Ustrushana, which is located in its eastern part, to the kingdom are unnatural¹⁷. In this regard, we also M.H. We agree with Paradaev's opinion and put forward the opinion that Ustrushona was part of the Kang union at the beginning of our era.

Academician K. Shoniyofov states that on the eve of the Greek invasion, "the Saklar tribal unit existing in the Tashkent oasis was led by a commander, who, in turn, was elected at a council meeting consisting of the elders of the tribe and clan heads, and economic and political issues were also resolved at this council meeting"¹⁸. So, in Ustrushona there were general democratic laws in the administration of power. However, over time (more precisely, after the invasion of the Greeks), the system of the military tribal union in the steppe was no longer in accordance with the requirements of the time. He was not able to fully protect the tribes. Social and political processes at this time also have a great impact on the Kangar society.

Events such as the beginning of the uprising against the Greek invaders in Ustrushona at the agreed time, the gathering of Saka troops behind the river, and finally the resistance movements led by Spitamen in Marokand, which took place at the same time, were inextricably linked with each other, and there is no doubt that the leaders of the tribe played a key role in this. These events make it possible to create an idea about the social structure of Ustrushona in the Kang era, state management procedures and relations with neighboring regions.

¹⁴ Khojaev A. Information on the history of Fergana... - B.146..

¹⁵ Ртвеладзе Э. Цивилизации, государства, культуры Центральной Азии. - Ташкент, Университет мировой экономики и дипломатии, 2005. -С.57.

¹⁶ Paradaev M.H., Gafurov J.I. Early medieval rural areas of Ustrushona. Tashkent, 2016. - B.282.

¹⁷ Paradaev M.H., Gofurov J.I. The first medieval villages of Ustrushona... - P.283.

¹⁸ Shaniyozov K.Sh. Kang state and Kangli people... - 30-31 p.

Through the works of Curtius Rufus, information has come down to us about the Memekens, one of the Ustrushona tribes. When the name of this tribe is mentioned, the inhabitants of all the provinces, whose center is the city of Kireskhata (Kiropol), are meant. It is also possible that the word "Memaken" was created from the name of that region. Apparently, this is one of the largest tribes living in the plains on the left bank of the middle stream of the Syr Darya, and they lead the fight against the Macedonian invaders¹⁹. When the invaders came to this place, as noted in the sources, they already had many settlements and their own cities. Among them, the most studied about the size and structure can be judged based on the information about the city of Nurtepa. Its area is about 18 ha.

In the history of the Great Han Dynasty (202-225 BC), it is mentioned that the king of Kang'oi acted in consultation with his elders²⁰. This method of government, which works in cooperation with the advisory assembly of the royal power, is known in history as a state system based on the principles of military democracy²¹. If we draw a conclusion based on the above information, during the Kang era, the lands belonging to him were organized into several regions and were managed by Yabgu. Such a management method is characteristic of Turkic tribes, for example, the Hun society is composed of 24 clan associations, each clan has its own ruling elder²². In this case, together with the union of tribes, there are subordinated tribes and the leading tribe that founded the union. In particular, the Ustrushona estates were an integral part of the Kang confederation, and this tradition seems to have been preserved even later²³. For his services in suppressing the rebellion of Rafe ibn Lais, who raised a revolt against the Arabs, the estates of Yahya, Choch and Ustrushana were given to one of the grandsons of Somankhudat.

Kanguys managed to preserve the integrity of the country and ensure the inviolability of the country's borders through various diplomatic and military means. As a result, the tribes that arrived on the eve of the events of this period (or earlier) and are called by various names (Turkish - Sarmatian, Yuechji, Hun, Usun, etc.) who differ little from the peoples of the country in terms of language and way of life, also have a social, political and cultural influence on the country. who began to actively participate in their lives. Due to the stable social and political situation of this period, a complementary culture of the settled and nomadic population was formed in the large territories included in it, including Ustrushona.

In the archaeological monuments studied in the territory of Central Asia, many military weapons, objects and armor with the image of a warrior have been studied. Such findings are also characteristic of Ustrushona burial mounds. In some tombs in the tombs of Saganoq, Gulbo, and Shirinsoy dating to the Kang era (2nd-1st BC and early AD) of Ustrushona, the deceased were "fully armed" by putting swords, daggers, bow arrows - weapons of war that they used during their lifetime - with fire. The deceased was buried with great respect²⁴. In many regions of Central Asia, similar military weapons, items and weapons with images of warriors have been studied. Such weapons were in circulation in the

¹⁹ Ancient Zomin (history, archeology, numismatics, ethnography). Tashkent, 2018. - B. 147.

²⁰ Бичурин Н.Я.(Иакинф) Собрание сведений... 2- том. – Б.184.

²¹ Askarov A.A. Ethnogenesis and ethnic history of the Uzbek people. - Tashkent: "Universitet", 2007. -B.167.

²² Shaniyozov K.Sh. Kang state and Kangli people... - B.73.

²³ Hamdamova M. The historical ambassador, Nizamshah. -Tashkent, 2012. - B.28.

²⁴ Toshboev F.E. Some comments about fire-related incidents // SamSU scientific research bulletin 4- (62) issue. - Samarkand, 2010. - B. 25-28,

2nd and 1st centuries BC and 1st and 2nd centuries AD and were not unique to the Ustrushan people²⁵. From the description of the weapons studied in the Ustrushona burial mounds and the state of burial of the dead, it is known that the weapons of the ancient herdsmen were used at close range, face-to-face (sword, battle ax, short spear, sagaris-dagger, knife, etc.) and at a distance (bow, palokhmon and h...) intended for fighting.

Of the weapons used for fighting from a distance, only the iron bow arrows have survived. Unfortunately, no part of the bow (bow, rib) or the ropes has been preserved. At the same time, a lot of attention is paid to protective armor (armor, helmet, shield, etc.). While they were mostly used by cavalry, warriors were skilled horsemen, and this advantage they were able to use skillfully in military engagements²⁶.

The military art of nomadic Saka tribes is well covered in written sources of ancient times. Scholars associate the tribes of three-horse species mentioned in the Avesta with the Sakas²⁷. In the late Bronze Age nomadic population living in the steppes of Eurasia, separate groups of Suvorians were formed. They were armed with long spears, swords, shields, and long-range bows, which were convenient for fighting on horseback²⁸. The Greek historian Herodotus gave information about the battles of the Saka tribes against the Achaemenids, their weapons, fighting style and the structure of the army. According to this historian, during the Greco-Persian wars, the most elite troops of the Achaemenids were from the Saka tribes. Their main weapons were bows, daggers, two-edged sharp battle axes - sagaris²⁹. From this we can learn that the Saks fought at close range and used iron daggers, short swords, and double-edged battle axes in hand-to-hand combat.

It can be said that the armor of the Sakas was the most advanced weapon of their time and at the same time the Saka warriors were skilled horsemen. The Chinese annals describe the military weapons of the warriors of the Turkic tribes as follows: "their weapons consist of arrow-shaped bows and sound-like arrows, shields, spears, swords and two-edged swords (long, heavy swords)"³⁰. Not only light archers, but also infantry were important in the army of Sak tribes.

The most perfect of the weapons invented in ancient times for the purpose of fighting from a distance was the "Scythian bow" that appeared at the end of the Bronze Age. Findings about the body part of the bow with such a complex structure in Ustrushona were studied from the graves of the Old Hovos and Asht steppes³¹. According to its structure and characteristics, this bow is intended for fighting

²⁵ Мандельштам А.М. Кочевники на пути в Индию. М.-Л.: Наука, 1966. – С.14-15. Табл. XXXIX; Литвинский Б.А. Орудия труда и из могильников Западной Ферганы. – М.: Наука, 1978. – С.19. Таб.1,3.

²⁶ Toshboev F.E. Preliminary remarks about the military weapons of the Ustrushona peoples // Archeology of Uzbekistan, 7th issue. -Tashkent-Samarkand, 2013. -B.68.

²⁷ Авеста. Избранные гимны. Пер. с. Авест и комментарий И.М. Стеблин- Каминского. – М., 1990. – С.173.

²⁸ Сулейманов Р. Роль кочевников в истории Центральной Азии // ИМКУ. Вып. 42. Материалы международной конференции «Цивилизация Центральной Азии: Взаимоотношения оседлой и кочевой культур». – Ташкент, 2022. - С.49.

²⁹ Sagdullaev A.S. Ancient Uzbekistan in the first written sources. - Tashkent, 1996. - B.55.

Геродот. История (в девяти книгах). Книга IV, VII перевод и примечания Г.А. Стратановского. – Л.: 1972.

³⁰ From the history of military work in Uzbekistan (from ancient times to the present). Responsible editor D. X. Ziyoeva. -Tashkent: Sharq, 2012. - B.48.

³¹ Грицина А., Рахимов К., Мамиров О. Эски Ховосдан топилган мураккаб таркибли камон хусусида // O'zbekiston

while standing on a horse. Despite its relatively small size, it was distinguished by its shooting distance and precise hitting of the target. Four bows and their parts were studied in the Karabulok tomb in the Ferghana Valley³². Such bows were also studied in the Munchoktepa burial mounds in the valley, and the scientists who studied them divided these bows into two different types and the paykons into two different types³³. Умуман олганда, улар мураккаб таркибли камонлар қаторига киради. Such bows are widespread in Central Asia and belong to the "Hun bow" type. This complex structure is made of several pieces of wood.

This tradition was further improved when the Greeks invaded Central Asia, and there were radical changes in weaponry during the Kang period. In 1980, images of warriors drawn on the surface of bone plates were studied at the Orlot burial mound in Koshrabot district, Samarkand region³⁴. In it, the fighters are fully armed, wearing armor, and even the horses have armor. The fact that the deceased were buried in this way fully armed or represented in works of visual art testifies to the development of military art.

As a result of military reforms aimed at creating a new type of army and its tactics in the Kang state, not only heavy-armed cavalry, but also heavy-armed infantry were formed. The tactics of the light-armed cavalry consisted of moving to a full-scale attack. Historians of ancient times called it the method of "fleeing and fighting"³⁵. This method quickly exhausted the enemy and led to tactical confusion. Archaeological materials from the Kang era show that cavalry played a major role in them. A distinctive feature of the Kang horsemen was their heavy, protective weapons³⁶. The main part of the body of the suvori was covered with plates. Most of the warriors dressed in armor had leather or metal coverings on their horses.

In the Gulbo burial mounds, there are also cases of burials in the form of horse-riding (poza vsadnika), rider-warrior or semi-cavalry. Burial in this form indicates that he spent most of his life on horseback³⁷. At the same time, such a sitting position was very convenient for shooting from the bow at the enemy who was chasing behind. The corpses in the form of a warrior-rider riding a horse testify that they suddenly attacked the enemy from a lying position, used bows and ropes in battle depending on the situation, and when necessary, quickly disappeared and attacked again.

The military weapons of Ustrushna herders became more sophisticated in the early Middle Ages. At that time, the metallurgical industry was developing further, the nomads were able to re-arm their army

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³² Баруздин Ю.Д. Карабулакский могильник // ИАН Киргизской ССР. Серия общественных наук. Том III. Вып.3. (История). – Фрунзе, 1961. - С. 43-82.

³³ Matboboev B. X. On the history of military weapons in the Fergana Valley (7th-8th centuries BC) // Proceedings of the international scientific-practical conference on the topic "Cultural heritage of Eurasian peoples: modern research, problems and methods of study". - Jizzakh, 2022. - B.89-92.

³⁴ Пугаченкова Г.А. Образ кангюйца в согдийском искусстве (Из открытий Узбекостанской искусствоведческой экспедиции) // Из художественной сокровищницы Среднего Востока. – Ташкент, Изд-во лит. и искусства, 1987. (224 с.). – С.56-65., Пугаченкова Г.А. Образы юечжийцев и кангюйцев в искусстве Бактрии и Согда // Античные и раннесредневековые древности южного Узбекистана. – Ташкент: Фан, 1989. -С. 96-110.

³⁵ Сулейманов Р. Роль кочевников в истории Центральной Азии... – С.56-57

³⁶ Normurodov D.R. History of the material culture of the Tashkent oasis in the ancient and medieval period (XIII BC - beginning of the XIII century AD). History is a science. doctor of philosophy (PhD) diss... Tashkent: National Archaeological Center of Uzbekistan, 2020. – P.78.

³⁷ Toshbaev F.E. Culture of ancient Ustrushona herders... - B. 149-150.

and organize a combat unit selected from the armored cavalry³⁸. They were armed with horned bows, breastplates, spears, swords, and sharp cavalry swords. Such images have been preserved on the walls of the Palace of Kahkakha in Bunzhikat Arch, the capital of Ustrushona. According to N.N. Negmatov, the composition on the eastern wall of the small hall in the palace was studied with the image of equestrian horses. Here are three horsemen riding beautifully decorated black, gray and white horses. Suvoriis were dressed in battle clothes, wearing helmets on their heads, long spears in their right hands, and swords and daggers on their waists. In addition to them, there are images of soldiers fighting in the fire on the eastern wall³⁹. From this, it can be noted that the weapons of the Ustries had armor plates, daggers with short handles bent to one side, two-edged swords (swords), knives and three-edged bow arrows.

Thus, it seems that during the Kang period, the management of Ustrushona was left to the local governors, and they regularly paid taxes (boj) to the central government under the control of tudans appointed by the Khan. During the Kang era, money circulation was created, and the rulers minted their coins with the image of a king on the front and a rider on the back. During the Kang period, there were many cities that were already built, and new ones were also built. Various industries have developed, trade is booming, irrigation facilities have been built⁴⁰. This process had a strong impact on the material and spiritual life of the Ustrushona people. However, on the eve of the collapse of the Kang confederation (in the 4th century), the mention of Ustrushona as an independent province in Chinese sources indicates that Ustrushona had internal governance during the Kang period. During the Kang period, along with labor weapons, the methods of making war weapons were also improved.

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³⁹ Негматов Н.Н. О живописи дворца афшинов Уструшаны (Предварительное сообщения) // СА. Вып. 3. –М., 1973. – С.188-189.

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