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# RESEARCH OF MONUMENTS OF THE EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD IN USTYURT REGION

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## **Abstract:**

Since ancient times, the Khorezm oasis was considered the center of settled agriculture and bordered on the Ustyurt steppe, where nomadic tribes lived. Due to this, in the northwestern part of the oasis, bordering on Ustyurt, there are archaeological sites. These monuments were trade centers in contact with the settlers. They played an important role in trade relations in the Middle Ages.

## **Keywords**

Ustyurt, Caspian, archeology, ethnography, urban planning, irrigation, renaissance.

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#### Introduction

From the early Middle Ages, a branch of the Great Silk Road connecting the West and the East passed through Ustyurt. A branch of the thousand-kilometer trade route connecting the East and the West, passing through Khorezm, from Gurganj (Old - Urganch) - Ustyurt - North Caspian - Eastern Europe through Russia, Khazaria, Volga Bulgaria stretched in the direction of The Great Silk Road embodies the high values that have been formed since ancient times and has played a very important role in inter-regional trade relations. The existing kalaes, towns, which affect trade relations in Ustyurt, such as the cities of Khorezm located on the Great Silk Road, influenced the achievement of great achievements in socioeconomic relations and cultural life.

Many researchers have conducted scientific research in the process of researching the monuments of different periods in Ustyurt of Khorezm in the early middle ages, the early medieval barrows, and studying trade. The establishment of the Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography of the Karakalpakstan Department of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (1959) in the field of researching archaeological monuments in the Ustyurt and Khorezm oasis brought great work in the research of medieval monuments. In 1958-1960, under the leadership of the head of the Institute's Archeology Department, Professor V. N. Yagodin, he conducted the first systematic exploration of the medieval monuments on the right and left banks of the Amudarya basin. In these years, the archeological detachment, starting from the kala of Gaur (Mizdakhkon) in Khojaly district, and adjacent to Ustyurt in the micro-oasis of Kangirot and Shumanay districts, Munchogli, Ketenler, Tuprak kala (Kungrad district), Tomar Castles I-II-III, Bugrakhan, Puljoy were built in the form of nomadic defense fortifications in the early Middle Ages (IX-X centuries), and during the period of Khorezmshaks, investigations were carried out on the

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monuments of trade and craft centers in the neighboring regions. At the end of the investigations, it was proved that these are the monuments of the border areas of urban development culture located along Usturt, one of the foci of ancient and medieval farming culture in the northern part of the Khorezm state, and these places were considered as one of the places where the first urban culture of the oasis was formed. In the new research conducted by M.M.Mambetullaev, Doctor of History, V.N.Yagodin, and Yu.P.Manilov, Candidate of Science, in the 80s-90s of the 20th century, the monuments of the early Middle Ages and Khorezmshakh period were found in the Aybuyir micro-oasis in these regions, in Ustyurt. studied. The result exceeded expectations, new discoveries were made in Khorezm archeology, examples of material culture corresponding to the sedentary culture of Khorezm people and unique monuments of medieval settlers (Oguz-Kipchak, X-XIV centuries) were discovered. Including the system of medieval villages around the Big Aybuyir kala, caravan palaces such as the Small Aybuyir kala, guard mounds ("сигналний башни"), Berniyaz, Akchungul, Aybuyir territory belonging to the nomads are kalaes graves and exploitative farms. suitable (присваювающий) hunting construction-devices ("стреловидние планировки") were identified and archaeologically excavated for the first

Great irrigation works, hundreds of thousands of hectares of arable fields revived, construction of fortifications bordering the steppes, strategic defense structures on the caravan routes to Khurasan, Mavorunnahr, Dashti - Kipchak field, the new development of urban life, the prosperous and rich "Renaissance of Khorezm" art. As a result of the growth of the horse, its influence on the cultural history of Central Asia, Iran, along the Volga will be invisible to our eyes.

The lower Amudarya basin, which is the "gateway" of Khorezm's cultural and political relations with the North (Dashti - Kipchak, Volga-Bulgaria and Russia), cities and villages located in Ustyurt, barrows, caravan-palace, roads, burials The results of the study of the history of ritual monuments are considered the main points of our chosen topic. Findings of material culture of the Khorezmshakhs-Anushtegin period were recorded in a number of monuments as a result of excavations in this archaeological area.

Archaeologists started working independently from others and began to study cities and caravanserais, old burial places. They studied monuments such as Aqshakhan, Katta Aybuyir kala, Mizdakhkan, Kyzilkala, Jampiq kala around the Khorezm region in Ustyurt and in the territory of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and the archaeological materials found in them were studied from a scientific point of view. Among them, the study of early medieval monuments in Ustyurt is of great importance.

The researchers conducted archaeological excavations in the Sarikamish Basin, Ustyurt, as a result of which it became known that the construction of the city's defense system consists of historical periods. The emergence of cities and fortress. It was carried out from the 5th century, and it was concluded that the crisis of cultural life belongs to the 4th-8th, 9th-10th centuries AD. Archaeological excavations were carried out in Davkesken (Vazir) and Shahsanam, as a result of which finds from the early Middle Ages and the 9th-13th

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centuries were obtained. Unfortunately, no archaeological research was conducted in the defense system of the kala-cities of the early Middle Ages. As a result of archeological excavations at the monument located only in the Vazir-Davkeskan Ustyurt mountain system, materials related to its plan and the history of the defense system were obtained, and the monument dates back to the millennium BC. It was determined that it belongs to the IV century. Archeological excavations were carried out in order to study the history of the creation and development of Katta Aybuyir kala, which is one of the monuments in the Northern Khorezm region. avv. It is dated to the IV century. Unfortunately, the creation of the city and the study of the defense system have not been completed. Nevertheless, new sources were obtained on the history of the planning and defense system of Katta Aybuyir kala. Monuments of Munchagli, Bugrokhan (Mazminiya), Ketenler, Tuproqkala (Kungrad), Puljay in the Aral region of Ustyurt are recorded on the archaeological map. Unfortunately, there is general information about these monuments, and no archaeological research has been carried out. At the same time, archaeological excavations were carried out in Puljay, as a result of which it was determined that the creation of the monument dates back to the VII-VIII centuries AD. But the defense system of the castle was not specially studied. However, in the plan of the monument, traces of walls and constellations are visible.

But the process of creation of research addresses and development of the defense system is not covered. As a result of conducting research in Puljaéy, archeological researchers obtained information about its structure and total size, and found that the monument dates back to the 9th to 14th centuries. But the ancient and early medieval defense system of the city has not been studied. Excavations were carried out by M. Turabekov in Bugrokhon, which was the political capital of Khorezm from the early Middle Ages, as a result of which materials related to the topographical structure and defense system of the city were obtained.

Thus, during the study of the history of the location, construction and defense structures of the villages and towns of Ustyurta and the neighboring Khorezm oasis, a large-scale archaeological survey was carried out in the ancient and early medieval border archaeological monuments in the area of the right and left banks of the Amudarya. as a result of conducting research, new items were collected. On the basis of the analysis of the materials taken from the layers of the ancient and early medieval fortifications of the defense system of the monuments, major fundamental works were created.

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