The Fifth Civilization of the Ancient East

**Abstract:** The article is chronologically challenged by urbanist scholars on the development of the public propaganda cycle and is devoted to the organization of Bronze Age cultures in Central Asia. The Center for Ancient Eastern Civilization wanted to support Central Asia and implement the Bronze Age culture with the help of a fifth-level civilization in the sciences. The general features of the BMAK, which entered as an Oxus civilization to the sphere, were revealed on the basis of archeological, anthropological and ethnographic sources. There are comments that the culture and civilization of the social sciences violates the dangers of the sciences.

**Key words:** civilization, mass culture, periodization, archeology, urbanization processes, culture, Jarkotan, Dashli, Tugolak, Gonur, city-state, confederation, class stratification, Oxus civilization, BMAK.

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**Introduction**

In addition to the civilizations of the Ancient East and in other closely related areas such as in Africa, Mesoamerica, the Far East, and the central Asia new civilizations were newly formed [15: 7]. The right to collect new proposals and go down in history has changed the way urbanist scientists interact with new developments in civilization. If science is one of the five most civilized civilizations in the history of the Mesopotamian states, it is for those who study the ideas of polycentrism in urbanism to build and organize central groups that are malicious and new in an unrelated situation [22: 3].

Formative views on the development of society have been sharply criticized by historians and sociologists, but are still used by some historians. Archaeologists prefer a civilizational view because they study the history of cultures and civilizations on the basis of material sources [27; 32].

The concept of civilization has been widely introduced into the history of Uzbekistan, and civilizational views are being formed on the issue of its chronology. Extensive study of the monuments of the Bronze Age Sopolli culture in the territory of southern Uzbekistan, especially as a result of archeological excavations in Jarkotan, this monument was included in the category of the first cities [4]. Phrases such as the first city, the first civilization, the first class relations, the first statehood are synonymous words and complement each other lexically. Whether Jarkotan has the status of the oldest city monument in the territory of Uzbekistan, it is possible to think that its inhabitants have also achieved civilization.

When using the term first civilization in the history of the peoples of Central Asia, we must pay attention to two aspects. First, we must clearly define the boundary between primitive history and the development of civilization, and second, the difference between culture and civilization.

There are different views in history on the first issue. There is a notion that civilization begins with the formation of modern man, the Neolithic revolution, urbanization processes, the formation of a society or state in which a class society is formed [43: 77]. In addition, terms such as “forest civilization”,...
"paikon civilization", "urban civilization" are used in connection with historical processes and regions [4].

It should be noted that Central Asia is one of the regions where nomadic-pastoral and sedentary cultures were formed and ethnically mixed [8: 5]. Due to the historical natural conditions and way of life of nomadic peoples, the term civilization is also used and very accurately assessed in relation to the society and material culture they created [9: 10-12; 10: 67-98; 11: 215-234; 17: 19: 217: 20: 27-41; 21: 224; 23: 31: 12-40; 33: 34; 50: 37-55; 51: 239; 52: 275].

Recognized by experts in the history of urbanization that civilization in Central Asian irrigated farming communities dates back to the Bronze Age, the emergence process is associated with Ancient Eastern civilization [27: 291] and its new fifth earth [46]. So, the border of civilization with the beginning was the Bronze Age, from which the processes of urbanization of society, the emergence of the first statehood, the classification of society began. Craftsmanship was developed, international trade and cultural ties were established [56: 7-13].

Culture and civilization are incomparable historical concepts and categories, and culture is applied to a region where the same material cultures are widespread. This is why cultures are radically different from each other. Although primitive, cultures have been formed since the emergence of mankind. The concept of civilization is broadly used in relation to the development of society, appearing at a certain stage of it, although different civilizations, similar in terms of social, economic, technical and technological development [4: 24]

As we have said, the value of any civilization is measured by its contribution to the development of society, to the development of humanity. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze the contribution of the population of the Oxus civilization to the development of the peoples of Central Asia.

The inhabitants of the Oxus civilization founded a religion centered in Central Asia. The reason for expressing this opinion with full confidence is the study of monumental temples centered on the monuments of Jarkotan, Dashti, Tugolak, Gonur [4; 44; 49]. Although scholars do not agree on the nature of the temples studied, religion, scholars who consider them to be the first Zoroastrian temples make up the majority.

The team of the Oxus civilization founded the first urban culture in Central Asia for the first time. Professors in this field T.Sh. Shirinov and B.J. Eshov conducted research and came to important conclusions about the archeological features of the first cities, the processes of their emergence, the stages of development [4; 29: 165-190; 59-42].

The question of the formation of states built at the same time as the first cities is Sh.B. Shaydullaev's research [53]. According to the author, governance in the territory of the Oxus civilization, especially in Bactria, although primitive, was formed before statehood, from the time of communities (family, patriarchal family, rural community management). He compares Jarkotan with the city-states of the ancient Eastern world. The historical topography of the monument, the formation of a developed system of management and production, the development of the created material culture, the breadth of the level of cultural ties allowed Jarkotan to be included in the category of city-states. By the early Iron Age, he had justified the formation of territorial states in Bactria. As a result of the confederation of regional states, The establishment of the Bactrian kingdom in the VIII century BC is proved by archeological and written sources. According to Sh.B. Shaydullaev, before the formation of the Ancient Bactrian kingdom, there were two stages of statehood, city-states and regional states, and as a result of the confederation of regional states, the Old Bactrian kingdom was formed, according to the latest research [54: 67-72]. This means that the people of the Oxus civilization founded the oldest city-states in Central Asia.

One of the most important features of civilization is that the population must be class-differentiated. In the example of the Oxus civilization, a number of historians have dealt with this issue [2: 21; 18: 21]. They noted that the population of the Oxus civilization was socially stratified according to the quantity and quality of samples of material culture buried with corpses, found mainly in the tombs studied in southern Turkmenistan and southern Uzbekistan. In recent years, the study of arches, palaces and temples in a number of Bronze Age monuments has provided a complete solution to this problem, and the social stratification of the population of the Oxus civilization has been scientifically substantiated [1: 21; 30: 82-94; 38:42; 41:40; 57:42].

Of course, no doubts that highly developed craftsmanship is a sign of civilization. In this regard, the representatives of the civilization we are studying have founded and developed many fields. The people who discovered the pottery wheel in the history of the peoples of Central Asia in terms of pottery are the people of Oltin tepa[29: 165-190; 36:19]. Those who elevated this tradition to the level of art are the inhabitants of the Oxus civilization. The invention of the pottery wheel allowed the pottery to be made in a standard, symmetrical style, and laid the foundation for the creation of fine art in the field of pottery.

In Central Asia, not only the pottery wheel, but also the discovery of two-tiered pottery came to the forefront of the Oltin tepa, which is the result of the creative work of the people of Oltin tepa 25]. The history of pottery of pottery culture dates back to A.A. Askarov and U.V. The Rakhmonovs learned. Large jugs have been typologized, evolutionary development and improvement have been observed [5:10; 6: 36-38; 7: 12-41; 36: 6-9].

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Philadelphia, USA
An example from the pottery of the Oxus civilization.

The two-tiered pots were found in Mesopotamia in the 6th millennium BC, in the territory of Ancient India (Mohenjodaro). In the 3rd millennium, in the territory of Iran (Tepa Gavr) 3900 years ago, in Southern Turkmenistan, it has been found since the 4th period of the Namozgoh (Khapuz, Tekkem, Uchtepa, Gonur, Namozgoh). From the above data it can be concluded that in the Ancient East a great deal of attention was paid to pottery. From the earliest days of pottery, high-quality pottery was produced. It is known that two-tiered jugs differ from other jugs in terms of technological and structural perfection, and jars of this type have been used until the late Middle Ages.

Making a two-tiered pottery, pottery baking required a great deal of knowledge and thinking, a certain professional skill, and unceasing service. According to E. Saiko, pottery was baked in this type of kiln at a temperature of 800,900°C [42; 154].

The two-tiered kiln is one of the most advanced devices created by mankind in the field of pottery, which is explained by the constant operation and the invention of thermostat technology. The invention of thermostat technology prevented the production of unusable products in pottery. The fact that none of the monuments of pottery culture has any unusable pottery shows that this technology is well mastered.

Metallurgy is one of the most developed areas of the Oxus civilization. According to K. Rakhimov's research, a total of 23 metal smelting furnaces were studied in the monuments of Sopolli culture [35]. The location of 8 metal smelting furnaces, a workshop, and a well in one room of the Jarkotan Fire Temple indicates the centralization of metallurgy, and the fact that the crucibles were found intact indicates the technology of smelting them.

Two specialists are currently conducting research on the metals of the Oxus civilization. V. Ruzanov’s research is devoted to the determination of the chemical composition of metals, ore deposits, while Kay Kaniut deals with the typology of metal products [39; 233-239; 67: 89-115].

One of the researchers of the Jarkotan monument, According to SH. B. Shadullaev, the inhabitants of the Oxus civilization also knew about iron [53;14]. It was observed that the blades of the bronze knife handle found in the Jarkotan arch were made of iron. It is known from history that iron was discovered by the Hittites, who lived chronologically at the same time as the Oxus civilization. Hittite inscriptions show that the Hittites made various ornaments from iron, statues of gods, and various objects used in religious ceremonies [66; 68]. The Hittites used meteorites and iron ore [75; 682]. In recent years, new data on the emergence and spread of iron in science have been collected. According to Dj. Waldbaum’s research, the oldest iron object dates back to the V-IV millennia BC, and the meteorite is made of iron. Many iron objects belonging to the Early Bronze Age were found in Mesopotamia, Anatolia and Egypt [74; 69-98]. In the ancient East, iron was considered a very precious metal. There is evidence that iron is 9-10 times more expensive than gold, 35-40 times more expensive than silver, and 400 times more expensive than lead [74;75].

Samples of metal (bronze) products of the Oxus civilization.

The oldest written source on iron is also known from Hittite cuneiform. The oldest “Anitti” text dates back to XIX-XVIII centuries BC. It tells the story of the XIX-XVIII centuries BC. It states that the governor of Purushandi, from the city of Hurrit, enthroned his vassal Anitti on an iron throne and gave him an iron scepter [12: 3-17; 13: 238-261].

The oldest iron found in Iran belongs to the second half of the second millennium BC. Iron swords and iron bows found on Gian I Hill, iron swords and iron hammers found in Sialk Cemetery are proof of this idea [64: 443].

The timing and distribution of iron in Central Asia is still one of the most pressing issues. V.M. Masson predicted the formation of iron is in the beginning of the first millennium BC and writes that iron spread to Central Asia through the territory of Iran [26: 108]. Based on an iron knife and slag found in Dalvarzintepa, Yu.A. Zadneprovskiy proposed to call the X-VIII centuries BC as the first Iron Age [16;32]. A.S. Sagdullaev proposes to call the X-VIII centuries from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, and the VII-IV centuries as the Early Iron Age [40: 229-234].

The iron nail in the handle of the bronze knife found in Jarkotan forces us to think anew. The beginning of the Early Iron Age is about 500 years older than Central Asia, with iron swords and bows found in Gian I and Sialk in Iran [64: 443]. This artifact, found in the Jarkotan arch, serves as a material source indicating that the people of the Oxus civilization knew about iron. Interested in the history of the invention of this invention, We turned to M.V. Gore's research on labor and weapons of war in the Ancient East. Knives similar to the handle of a knife found in Jarkotan were found in monuments in Mesopotamia, Syria and the Hittites [14: Tabl.1]. During the Bronze Age, Bactria had cultural contacts with the people of Syria and the Hittites. Sarianidi, S. Scholars such as Sarianidi, S. Salvatori have also written about that [48:55]. As a result of such contacts, it is natural that the knife found in Jarkotan also came as an "import".

The Oxus has elevated the field of architecture to the level of art. In this field, they have created a tradition that is radically different from that of other civilizations. First of all, based on the natural conditions of Central Asia, bricks were made from local soil. From large bricks (64x32x14cm) houses,
monumental monuments, including palaces, temples were built. The method of labyrinthic system fortification is unique to the Sopollitepa, Dashthi, Tugolak, Gonur monuments and has not yet been found in other cultural architecture. The method of symmetry in architecture was also discovered by the representatives of this civilization [4; 25; 45; 21-86; 46].

Communities that have achieved civilization will be in cultural and ethnic closeness with other peoples. In Central Asia, the Axis also established international trade and cultural ties [28: 49-65; 29: 165-190]. Researchers have done some research on cultural ties, trade, and communication routes in Central Asia during the Bronze Age [47: 262-265; 55: 34-39; 58: 17-21:]. The cultural connections established between the ancient East and the Oxus civilization are much better studied. In particular, the opening of the Shurtugay monument in Bactria served as the basis for this theme (65).

Representatives of the Oxus civilization had cultural ties not only with the developed eastern culture but also with the nomadic peoples of Eurasia. In recent years, the occurrence of pottery typical of the nomadic Andronovo culture in the Bronze Age monuments of Central Asia, Afghanistan, Iran and many monuments of the Harappan culture have become natural [37: 58-63]. Subsequent scientific findings suggest that the Axis had direct contact with the cultures of Harappa, Ancient Iran, and Andronovo, and indirectly with Syria, Hittite, and Mesopotamia [53:28].

We are witnessing that the representatives of the studied civilization have laid the foundation for a number of art forms in the history of the peoples of Central Asia. These are the areas of sculpture and glyptics. These types of art bear witness to the worldviews of nations.

In the example of terracotta sculptures found in Jakotan, we can see that zoological worldviews also developed. It is known that terracotta statues embody the ideological views of the people of that time. On the basis of terracotta figurines represented in the form of animals such as cows (oxen), camels, snakes, eagles, two-humped camels, we can determine the zoological religious views of the inhabitants of the Oxus civilization. The existence of a type of religion such as worshiping the spirits of ancestors in Jarkotan can be seen in the example of two clay-shaped embryos, a double female abdomen and a bust of a dead man found here [53:34].

The Bactrian and Margian people also founded the field of glyptics in Central Asia. Bronze Age glyptics are represented on seals, tumors, and beads. Glyptics provide the most historical information among the sources of material culture, and the images expressed in them provide information such as the art, mythological and religious worldviews of the Bronze Age, landscapes, wildlife, cultural relations with other peoples, migration of ancient peoples.

An example of the seals of the Oxus civilization. The study of the history of ox glyptics can be divided into two periods. The first period, covering the 70s and 80s of the last century, is characterized by the collection of sources on glyptics and the accumulation of knowledge about the functions of seals that represent glyptic images [3: 26-34]. During this period, many seals and ornaments from monuments such as Dashthi, Sopoll, Jarkotan, Tugalok, and Honur were illuminated in science with stratigraphic accuracy [24: 132-150], while hundreds of seals sold in Afghan markets appeared as antiques [70] and are now continues to this day.

The next 20-25 years of research on Oxus glyptics are mainly related to the activities of foreign scientists [60; 62; 63]. P Amee, the author of many ideas on the history of Bactria, first raised the issue of the influence of Syrian and Hittite cultures on Bactrian glyptics(61). According to him, the winged people, winged animals represented in the Bactrian glyptics, were first formed in Asia Minor and spread to Bactria through Iran, southern Turkmenistan. The question of the influence of Asia Minor on the formation of the school of glyptics in Bactria and Margiana was discussed by leading archaeologists, including Italian professors S. Salvatori and M. Tosi [69: 97-145; 72: 130-158; 73: 283-386], Japanese orientalists and archaeologists K. Tanabi, A. Xori, K. It is also recognized by his work [71].

From the above data, it can be concluded that the cultural development of the peoples of Central Asia dates back to the period of the Oxus civilization. The first urban culture, the class differentiation of society, statehood, technical and technological innovations formed and developed on the basis of internal and external cultural relations (discovery of the mechanism of rotation, ie pottery wheel and cart), the process of centralization of religion are typical of the Oxus civilization.

Thus, at the end of the third millennium BC, the Oxus civilization was formed in Bactria and Margiana, and during the second millennium, its great historical period began and spread to a vast area, including eastern Afghanistan, Balochistan, eastern Iran, and northern India. This civilization is characterized by generalized signs of material culture and is constantly characterized by the merging of new ethnic groups from the north, the Andronovo culture, and their expansion to the south.

Sopollitepa is the oldest maze system on earth.
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