



TOPONYMIC INFORMATION OF CENTRAL ASIA IN IRANIAN AND INDIAN SOURCES.

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Annotation: This article covers information about the history and toponymy of Central Asia in ancient inscriptions in the Iranian cities of Persepolis, Susa, Ecbatana, in the Behistun inscriptions and in the Indian work “Mahabharata”.

Keywords: inscription, history, toponymy, work, ruler, pictorial images, territory, tribe, ceramic tablet.

Annotatsiya: mazkur maqolada Eronning Persopol, Suza, Ekbatana shaharlaridagi qadimgi yozuvlar, Behistun yozuvlarida hamda hindlarning “Mahabharata” asarida O'rta Osiyo tarixi va toponimikasi haqidagi ma'lumotlar yoritilgan

Kalit so'zlar: yozuv, tarix, toponimika, asar, hukmdor, tasviriy suratlar, hudud, qabila, sopol taxtacha.

Аннотация: В статье рассматриваются сведения об истории и топонимике Средней Азии, содержащиеся в древних надписях из иранских городов Персеполь, Сузы и Экбатана, в Бехистунских надписях и в индийском эпосе “Махабхарата”.

Ключевые слова: письменность, история, топонимия, труд, правитель, изобразительные изображения, территория, племя, керамическая табличка.

Ancient Iranian inscriptions are one of the ancient and important sources about the history and toponymy of Central Asia. Such inscriptions were found in and around the ancient capital of the Achaemenids, Persepolis, Susa and Ecbatana. For example. An inscription engraved on a clay tablet describes the construction of the palace built in Susa in the early years of the reign of Darius I, and more precisely, the country from which the materials used for construction were brought. According to the information on the tablet, gold was brought from Lydia and Bactria, precious stones, lapis lazuli and serdoch (a red and reddish stone) from Sogdiana, and turquoise from Khorezm.[1] The inscriptions and reliefs found in Persepolis (a city built between 520 and 450 BC, located about 50 km north of Shiraz) are of great scientific value. Among them, the reliefs on the Apadana steps are of particular importance. The paintings (3 feet high)



depict people from 23 satrapies (dependent countries) under the Achaemenids, bringing tribute.

Among them are the Bactrians with various vessels, leather, furs and camels, the Sogdians with various fabrics, leather and sheep, the Sakas with horses and camels, the Parthians with vessels and camels, and the Khorezmians with horses and weapons. Six miles (9 km) north of Persepolis, on the rocks of Khusayn, are the tombs of the Achaemenid kings Darius I, Xerxes I, Artaxerxes I and Darius II, and inscriptions carved at their entrances. This monument is also associated with the name of the Sassanid general Rustam, and is often called the Naksh-e Rostam in history. In the inscriptions, especially the one under the image of Darius I, his state is depicted in blue.[2] He is exalted and praised, the peoples conquered by him are called to obedience and honest work, and the names of those who disobey and are sentenced to punishment for this reason are recorded.

Importantly, the inscription contains a complete list of 23 satraps and peoples subject to the Achaemenids. Among them are the Parthians, Bactrians, Sogdians, and Khorezmians.[3] Another important monument is the famous Behistun Inscription. These inscriptions are 22 m long and 7.8 m high. They are located in Northern Iran, 30 km from Kermanshah, on the banks of the ancient caravan route along the river. To its left, on a steep cliff called Zagros, at an altitude of about 105 meters, is a victory monument inscribed by order of Darius I.[4] The inscription is written in Elamite, Babylonian and Old Iranian languages and tells about the popular movements led by leaders such as Gaumata - who died on September 29, 522 BC, who shook the Achaemenid empire in 523-522 BC, Frada of Margiya - who was captured on December 10, 522 BC, and Skunkha - the leader of the Saka tribes who lived in the territory of present-day Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.[5] In the Behistun, Naqshi Rostam and Persepolis inscriptions, the Saka are also mentioned as peoples dependent on Iran, and are cited under the names "Sakas of Khaumavarga", "Sakas of Tigraya", "Sakas of the Sea". Sogdian Saka. Iranian inscriptions contain valuable toponymic information - valuable information about the ancient states of Central Asia, Khorezm, Bactria, Sogdiana, the oldest peoples of which are the Massagetae and Sakas. Ancient Indian inscriptions are important sources for the history and toponymy of Central Asia. In particular, the Mahabharata is written in Sanskrit and consists of 18 books containing 100 thousand verses.[6]

It describes the mutual enmity and wars of the Kauravas and Pandavas, the two families of descendants of the legendary king Bharata. It was created in the 18th



century BC. For example, the work contains this important information about the Sakas, Tohars, and Kanhas who went to distant India on trade: "At his door, along with other peoples, the Sakas, Tohars, and Kanhas were waiting in line. With lush beards and foreheads adorned with kings, they carried various gifts in their hands: wool, rangū, silk, fabrics woven from the fiber of the birch tree, as well as rare fabrics, soft, elegant leather, long and sharp swords, sabers, iron spears, various axes, drinks, fragrant things, and various precious stones." In the "Mahabharata," the Sakas are mentioned as "shak."

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