

ANCIENT PANCH COINS OF THE SUGD OASIS

Sulaymanova Sokhiba Bakhodirovna*associate professor (PhD)**Mail: s.sohiba@gmail.com***Jumaeva Iroda***master's student**Karshi State University**Mail: iranazlixan@gmail.com***ANNOTATION**

In the Sughd oasis, it is noticeable that by the beginning of the Middle Ages, the minting of each ruler's own coin began to spread widely. During this period, unlike the coins of the previous phase, the types of coins increased, and almost every ruler began to express their dynastic seals, the image of the head of the ruler, the title, the name of the suppressed place (rulership) (for example, Kesh, Panch) on the coins. Also, the changes in the management of the oasis during the period of the Turkish khanate were reflected in the coins, which prompted changes in the minting traditions.

Keywords:

Sughd, Western Turkic Khanate, Samarkand, Kesh, Naqshab, Panch, stamp, title, Turko-Sughd coins, khagan, tudun, tutuk, khatun, bilga Turko-rune and Sughd script

In the early Middle Ages, especially during the Turkic Khaganate, the Sughd oasis had its own coin-money system, which was reflected in the fact that almost all of the large and small principalities in the oasis had their own mints. In particular, it is known that the dominions of Samarkand, Kesh, Nakhlah and Panch minted their own coins, and a large part of them are coins related to the Khaganate to one degree or another.

In the Sughd oasis, which had its own coin-money system already in the last centuries before Christ, it can be seen that by the early Middle Ages, minting of each ruler's own coin began to spread widely. During this period, unlike the coins of the previous stage, the types of coins increased, and almost every ruler began to express their dynastic seals, the image of the head of the ruler, the title, the name of the suppressed place (rulership) (for example, Kesh, Panch) on the coins. Also, the changes in the management of the oasis during the period of the Turkish khanate were reflected in the coins, which prompted changes in the minting tradition.

The introduction of Turkic traditions into the ranks of the coins traditionally minted by the Sugdian rulers of the oasis has its influence on the coin-monetary system. Because of this, researchers use the term "Old Turkic coin group" for a significant part of Central Asian coins of this period.


At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the expressions "Turkic-Sugdian coins" and "ancient Turkish coins with Sugdian writing" were used in world historiography, and the first researchers who conducted research in this regard mainly relied on the iconography and stamps of the coins and used such an expression [1]. Later, when the Sogdian inscription on some coins found between Amudarya and Syrdarya and Ettisuv was read as "khaqan", the concept of "Ancient Turkish coins" began to be expressed more clearly. In the 1940s, pharmacologist O.I. Smirnova, archeological scientists, M.E. Masson, A.N. Bernshtam found out that the iconography and titles of a group of coins from Samarkand, Choch, Fergana, Ettisuv regions are characteristic of the ancient Turks, the scope of this concept was further expanded [2].











O.I. Smirnova, who discovered that ancient Turkish coins with the title "khaqan" were minted in some of the mentioned historical regions, read the title "tudun" in a group of Choch coins and introduced them to the world of science [3]. Also, the researcher found that the title "tutuq" is found on a coin minted in O'tror or Ferghana. It was also a big news that this researcher found among the coins of Sughd, a symbol (stamp or letter) reminiscent of the title "Khotun" and the Turkic runic writing on the coins with the image of a ruler and a queen typical of the ancient Turks [4].

Later V.A. Livshits, reading the title "bilga" on one of the Panch coins, found that the type of coins included in the "Old Turkic coin group" was quite wide[5]. For many years, B. Kochnev included these coins in this group based on the iconography of the coins commonly found in the Kashkadarya oasis[6].


Панч тангалари

Among the ancient Turkic coins, Panch coins hold a special place. It is known that coins were minted in Panch (Panjikent), one of the most important principalities of Sogd in its time, starting from the middle of the 7th century.[7] The connection of Panch coins with the Khaganate is that, on the one hand, they contain a Turkic title and epithet, and on the other hand, there is a similarity in dynastic signs - stamps. The coin, which is considered the first coin of the Panch dynasty, is a Chinese imitation with a square hole in the middle and bears the

words *pncy MR'Y cm'wky'n* "Panch ruler Chamukyan" and has [8], -shaped marks on the reverse side of the coin.

According to G. Boboyorov, the marks on the Panch coins are closely similar to those on the coins of the Western Turkic Khaganate minted in Choch. In particular, the first mark in the form of an arrow is close to the mark () on the coin of Tardu Khagan (576-603), while the second mark with the phrase *byry twwn x'γ'n* "Divine Tuun Khagan" is quite similar to the shaped mark  on the Choch coin. [9] (compare:  -  / ,  - ). According to the researcher, such similarities in the stamps raise the legitimate question of whether there is some connection between these dynasties. Later coins of Panch also have stamps () similar to the one above (, ), which bear the phrase *pncy MR'Y bylk' γwβ* "Panch ruler king Bilga" [10]. Researchers equate the name Bilga on the coin with *ck'yn cwr bylk'* (Chakin Chur Bilga), mentioned in Mugh Taghi Sogdian documents as a ruler who ruled Panch in 693-708 [11].

According to a number of researchers, this ruler was of Turkic origin and ruled Panch before Devashtich [12]. It is not yet known whether coins were minted in the name of the Sogdian ruler Devashtich (709-722), who succeeded him [13]. On the Panch coins minted after Bilga, the phrase *pncy nnδβnpnwh* "Queen of Panch Nana" is found. Sogdian scholars believe that this means that "the coin was minted in the name of Bilga's daughter, and since she was not from the family of the Devashtich rulers, she reflected the name of her wife." In the genealogy of Devashtich, cited in one of the [14] Arabic sources, it is noted that several of his ancestors were named Shur, and according to V.A. Livshits, this name is originally related to the Turkic title *chur*, and is associated with Devashtich being the son-in-law of Chakin Chur Bilga [15].

There are also coins minted in the Sogdian oasis, but the exact rulership they belong to is not fully known, bearing the title  "khotun" and are believed to have been minted in Samarkand, Kabudan, or Panch [16]. The image of the ruler and the queen on these coins is typical of the ancient Turks and is very close to the ancient Turkish coins of Choch, Fergana, Samarkand, Chaganiyan, O'tror and Bukhara with similar double images [17].

In short, both numismatic materials and written sources indicate that the Panch principality was ruled by a mixed Turkic-Sogdian dynasty in the second half of the 7th century - the first quarter of the 8th century.

So, the changes that took place in the management system of the Sughd oasis during the Khaganate period are also reflected in the coins belonging to the oasis rulers here. It can be felt

that the Sugdian and ancient Turkic traditions were mutually synthesized in the coin-money system of the large dominions of the oasis - Samarkand, Panch and Nakhlab. In particular, the appearance of the title "Khagan" on the Samarkand coins is an expression of the deep political relationship of this land with the Khaganate, and on the other hand, it indicates the high political status of Samarkand compared to other rulers. By the second half of the 7th century, the rise in the political status of the Panch rulership is reflected not only in written sources, but also in the coinage system. In the first years of the establishment of the khagan power in Sughd, a change of dynasty took place in Nakhlab, and this situation is also expressed through the coins of this rulership.

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