

NEW JONKELDI NEOLITHIC STONE-WORKING WORKSHOP OF SOUTHWEST KYZYLKUM

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SUMMARY: In this article, carried out during the preliminary field-exploration work for the purpose of anicizing and mapping archaeological monuments around the designated Jonkeldi area overlooking the Peshku District of the Bukhara region, as a result of the investigation, a Neolithic stone-working workshop was found on the northern Board of an unnamed bat located 10 km northeast of the center of the Jonkeldi village. This is where the white, brown and gray shades of Silicon are found. The monument was named after the jonkeldi Neolithic workshop. Technical-typological and extensive comparative analysis of archaeological materials collected from here makes it possible to more broadly reveal the essence of the workshop. However, it can be said from now on that thanks to a new monument found in the Jonkeldi area – a workshop for stone processing, the history of Uzbekistan was enriched with a new monument dating back to the Neolithic period. The territory of jonkeldi had favorable paleoecological conditions for the habitation of primitive people.

In recent years, great attention has been paid to such issues as the scientific study of archaeological monuments and, on this basis, their conservation, preservation, promotion and rational use [1]. An integral part of the objects of cultural heritage, these archaeological monuments are the main resource in the study of the socio-economic and material culture of the ancient and medieval period. In this respect, one of the urgent tasks on the agenda is "to carry out archaeological exploration of the monuments of the Stone Age, Bronze Age in Kyzylkum", like other regions. Such research covered the territories of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan.

In Central Asian archaeology, the Kaltaminor culture occupies a unique and appropriate place. The concept of the Kaltaminor culture of 1939 was introduced into science by the head of the archaeological-ethnographic expedition of Khorezm S.P. Tolstov [2] and, naturally, all other Neolithic monuments found in these regions were studied in comparison with the materials of Jonbosqala 4. Monuments of the Kaltaminor culture, which are different from other Neolithic cultures of Central Asia, were the object of long-lasting research of the Khorezm archaeological expedition. As a result of such studies, many monuments of the Kaltaminor culture were opened in the territory of Uzboy boyars [3], Sarigamish [4] and Khorezm [5]. Similar monuments have also been found and studied in Kyzylkum [6] and in the lower reaches of Zarafshan [7]. Thanks to research in these oases, many Neolithic monuments were identified, including the Darbozaqir 1 and 2 spaces[8.]. It has been scientifically proven that the communities of the Kaltaminor culture lived scattered throughout the regions of Central Asia and Southwest Kazakhstan.

There is also opinion that the Kaltaminor culture is composed of communities belonging to a separate ethnic and linguistic group [9]. A.V.Vinogradov did extensive work in the southwestern gods of Kyzylkum, finding and studying new monuments of the Kaltaminor culture. The problems of dividing caltaminor culture into local variants, their chronological periodization, have also been considered by prohibitionists.

In accordance with the economic contract number 09 dated May 04, 2021, concluded between the National Archaeological Center of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan and "Aswa Power Dzhanakeldy Wind" LLC, the expedition consisting of the employees of the National Archaeological Center of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Institute of Archeology of Samarkand, and the employees of Samarkand State University on June 25 - July 25 of this year Identification and mapping of archaeological monuments in the designated areas of Peshku district of Bukhara region (around Jonkeldi) GPS coordinates 40°51'3.40"S 63°25'2.81"W altitude 465 m above sea level (2 areas: 23500 ha and 6700 ha) conducted initial field research. The research was completed and the following conclusions were drawn:

Archaeological studies in the Kyzylkum Desert have been carried out since the late 40s of the 20th century, and hundreds of monuments and large cultures have been found here and introduced into scientific circulation, but new material cultural destinations are being discovered in the area. Until now, not a single monument has been found around the village of Jonkeldi, Peshku District, Bukhara Region (in the area specified in the contract). Major researcher of Kyzylkum archeology A.V. Vinogradov informed science about the Tashbulok and Tashqazgan sites, about 20-25 km southeast of the Jonkeldi village, but only. The area around the village of Jonkeldi consists of heavily washed low mountains and hollows, with a very poor fauna and flora, with the wind blowing every half of the day.

On the northern side of an unnamed hollow (size: 10x3 km) located 10 km northeast of the center of the village of Jonkeldi, a literal stone-working workshop of the Neolithic period (7th millennium BC) was found.

The workshop is located at an altitude of 383 m above sea level, above the now eroded silicon deposits. The area is 70x30 m and it is cut by ravines on both sides. White, brown and gray shades of silicon are found here. However, white silicon is the majority among them. Excavations at the monument showed that the cultural layer is unique and up to 40 cm thick. After this depth, the findings end and the limestone cliffs begin.

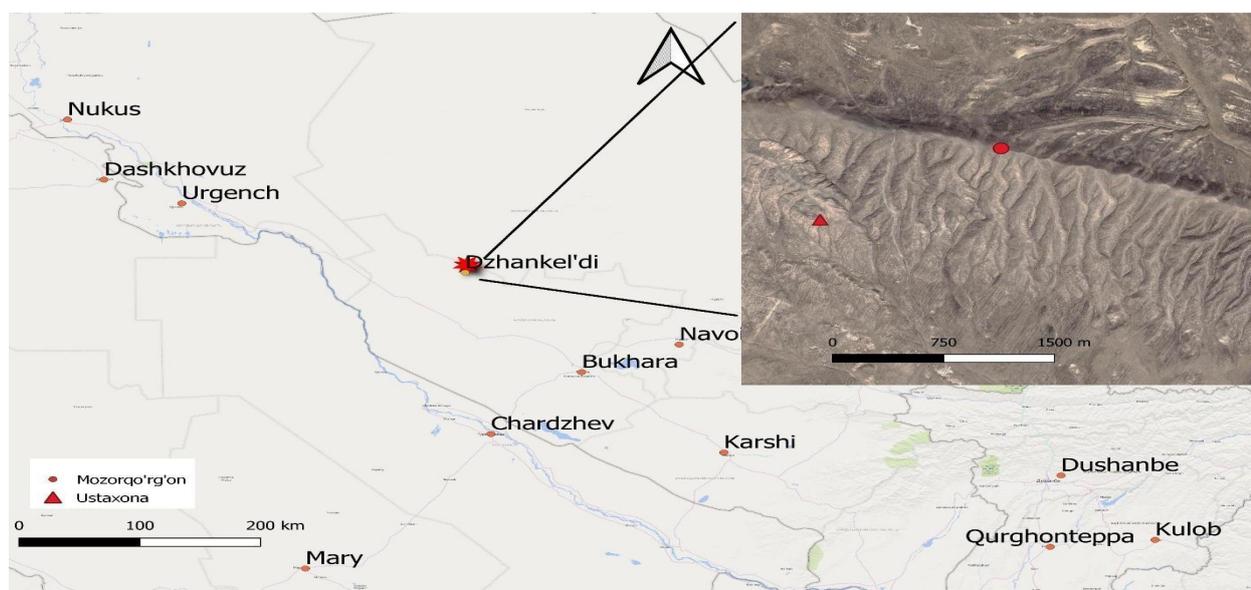
More than 400 worked stone objects were collected from the workshop. Findings include a number of cores, outcrops, and plates that were discarded due to raw material defects or early stages. Also, technical tools related to stone polishing constitute a large part of the collection, which indicates that the primary processing of stones was carried out in this place itself. It seems that the inhabitants of the Neolithic period (7th-5th millennia BC) came here to get quality raw materials. The materials testify that the siliceous limestone present here has crustal and internal defects. That is why primitive Masters cleaned Silicon from unnecessary shells and internal defects at the same place, taking it to spaces in the form of junctions or ready-made (defects-free) nucleuses. To do this, it was necessary to carry out primary processing of stones at the same place. Typologically, this is a "literal" workshop, that is, a place located near Silicon mines, where Neolithic people came to pick up raw materials and carried out primary processing activities on stones. The monument was named after the jonkeldi Neolithic workshop. Technical-typological and extensive comparative analysis of archaeological materials collected from here makes it possible to more broadly reveal the essence of the workshop.

However, it can be said from now on that thanks to a new monument found in the Jonkeldi area – a stone processing workshop, the history of Uzbekistan was enriched with a new monument dating back to the Neolithic period.

Thus, the "white spots" were removed from the archaeological map of the 30,200 ha areas designated by the project around the Ayakagitma bog of the Gijduvan district of the Bukhara region and the Jonkeldi village of the Peshku district. As a result of the expedition, Ayakagitma-2 Neolithic site, Boshogitma 1-7 Paleolithic workshops, Jonkeldi Neolithic workshop, burial mounds and dozens of other finds were discovered. Jonkeldi region had favorable paleoecological conditions for

primitive people to live. The quality silicon deposits found here were probably brought by our primitive ancestors from nearby or neighboring areas and brought raw materials.

Our ancient ancestors lived in this area during the Paleolithic, Neolithic and Middle Ages. The captured archaeological materials open new pages in the oldest history of Uzbekistan.



Map of archaeological monuments identified in Jonkeldi area and the protection zone is 200 m



Shots and plates of the Jonkeldi workshop

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