



Some Aspects of New Interpretations on the History of the People of Central Asia

Akhmedov Jalol Tursunmuratovich

Jizzakh Polytechnic Institute, Teacher of the "Social Sciences" department

Abstract: In this article, some opinions are expressed about some aspects of the new interpretations of the history of the peoples of the region by historians of Central Asia.

Keywords: Central Asia, history, past, nation, population, nomad, UNESCO, civilization, Turks, cooperation.

Today, the peoples of Central Asia are considered a geographic region of about 80 million people, and the term is more commonly used to refer to the area that includes the independent republics of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. This region is not only geographically a whole, but, with some exceptions, it unites peoples with common language, religion, culture, and history. In this regard, the world community, especially historians and sociologists of leading countries such as the West and Russia, Japan, China, etc., have been paying attention to such unique aspects of Central Asia when studying the history of the region.

The problems of social and economic development of various regions, especially the countries of Central Asia, which is a part of the Eurasian region, are one of the topics that are receiving great attention in the areas of world regional studies and cultural anthropology. In this respect, the history of Central Asia, whose economic basis includes a part of the settled peasant population, and a part of the nomadic herders, is in the center of attention of world scholars. In this regard, it is noteworthy that since 1995, the scientific organization "International Institute of Central Asian Studies" opened in the city of Samarkand on the initiative of UNESCO has been conducting research on the history, archeology, ethnography and culture of the peoples of the region.

In fact, the world's leading scientific centers, including the UNESCO organization, came up with a number of initiatives on similar scientific activities shortly before the Central Asian countries gained independence.

In particular, as will be discussed in more detail below, in the late 1980s, under the initiative of UNESCO, under the heading "History of the Civilizations of Central Asia", a lot of serious work began to be written on the history of Central Asia, and this work was published in the early 1990s (1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2003), 2005).

It is noticeable that similar initiatives have been started in Central Asian countries and a number of scientific projects have been implemented to write the common history of the peoples of the region. Since gaining independence, dozens of scientific schools have been formed in the republics of the region, which are specially engaged in such issues. In particular, it is important that in recent years dozens of international scientific conferences on the history of the peoples of the region have been held at the initiative of the leading scientific institutions of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, etc.

In this matter, the initiatives of historians, archeologists and linguists of the Republic of Kazakhstan have gained a wide scope. In the first decade of independence, Kazakh researchers, who held dozens

of international scientific conferences in the cities of Almaty, Astana, and Turkestan, and invited mature scientists from not only the countries of Central Asia, but also the world, engaged in the region, supported the idea of writing a common, joint history of the peoples of the region in cooperation. This initiative of theirs was actually a continuation of the initiative raised in a number of international scientific conferences organized in Tashkent. In the next decade, Kazakh historians focused on writing the general history of the Turkic peoples and came up with the idea of teaching it in secondary schools in Central Asian countries, Azerbaijan and Turkey. This idea was actually a continuation of the proposals made by the leaders of these countries in capital cities such as Tashkent, Ankara, etc. in the early 1990s. In 2012, with the establishment of the International Turkish Academy in Astana, this organization created the textbook "General history of the Turkish people" for the 8th graders of high schools in order to show the general aspects of the history of the Turkic peoples. began to be taught as an optional course. The exchange of views on the inclusion of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in this initiative continues. Historians from Uzbekistan made a unique contribution to the writing of this textbook, which covers the period of the Turkic peoples from the earliest times to the 15th century.

It is known from the experience of the world practice that any country, especially countries that have embarked on the path of independent development, cannot develop without cooperation with foreign countries. On the contrary, each country strengthens its path of independent development by joining the world community.

In this sense, the integration of the countries of the world is extremely important in the conditions of today's global geopolitical and geocultural processes, and the positive changes in the renewed republics of the region are increasingly increasing the interest of the countries of the world in the history of the region.

When studying the historical stages of the history of the peoples of Central Asia, such as the ancient period, the early middle ages, the developed middle ages, and the late middle ages, it is noticeable that today's world historiography or local historians of the region approach it differently. In this matter, a purely scientific approach, objectivity, is a priority, but there are also mutually exclusive approaches depending on the place. In general, researchers conducting research on the history of the peoples of Central Asia can be divided into the following groups:

1. Researchers who adhere to scientific ethics, objectivity, truthfulness while referring to written sources and archaeological materials;
2. Researchers who use such sources, but seek to illuminate their national history more; Researchers who used the sources, but adapted them to their own interests, approached historical realities one-sidedly, and allowed bias;
1. Researchers who try to make the history of their people more "ancient" and "greater" without reference to the sources or with a one-sided approach.

Such approaches can be further divided into many large and small groups. At the same time, the researchers who have been working in this field for nearly 30 years, that is, since the Central Asian republics gained their state independence, can be seen mainly under these groups. Due to the fact that each of these approaches in world historiography has been observed in other regions, the world's major research centers have implemented a number of scientific and practical measures to prevent such situations from intensifying in Central Asia. In particular, as mentioned above, from the beginning of the 1990s to 2005, a 6-volume monograph entitled "History of Central Asian Civilizations" was published in English on the initiative of UNESCO. In this initiative, each volume covers different stages of the history of the region, specialists in the history of Central Asia from Europe and advanced countries of the world, as well as mature expert historians and archeologists from the historians of five countries in the region were involved.

As a result of such studies, the controversial ideas about the history of Central Asia, which have been going on for almost 150 years, began to find their solution to one degree or another. Although the people of Central Asia, in general, who were the oldest indigenous inhabitants of the region and which

language groups they spoke, the following views are still maintained among both local and foreign researchers, but published on the initiative of UNESCO and other international scientific organizations publications of the region's oldest It has been confirmed that in the two millennia BC, its inhabitants mainly spoke Eastern Iranian, they spread widely in the central, south-eastern and south-western regions of the region, and had a lifestyle of sedentary farmers and nomadic herders. At the same time, in the last millennium BC, it was determined that Turkic-speaking peoples spread widely in the northern and northeastern regions of the region, and it was emphasized that their economic life was dominated by nomadic herding.

Despite the fact that opinions close to the above-mentioned ideas about the distribution of the population of Central Asia speaking both languages - Iranians and Turks - have been expressed and written long ago, some historians and linguists continue to contradict each other even today One group of them says that the ancient inhabitants of the region were the Turks, while another group emphasizes that the Turks came to this area much later, at the beginning of AD or much later.

The information discussed above refers to the inhabitants of the ancient period of Central Asia, and in the subsequent processes, especially in the beginning of AD and the early Middle Ages, several hundred words related to the Eastern Iranian-speaking peoples (Khorazmians, Sugdians, Bactrians, etc.) and Turkic people were found in various languages. found in written sources. Therefore, there is no room for controversy regarding their ethnicity and geographical distribution. In fact, if deep scientific research is carried out, it is possible to determine the ancient roots of the peoples of the region. For this, it is required that both world scientists and regional researchers conduct archaeological, linguistic and ethnological research in cooperation and approach the issue objectively and not unilaterally.

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