

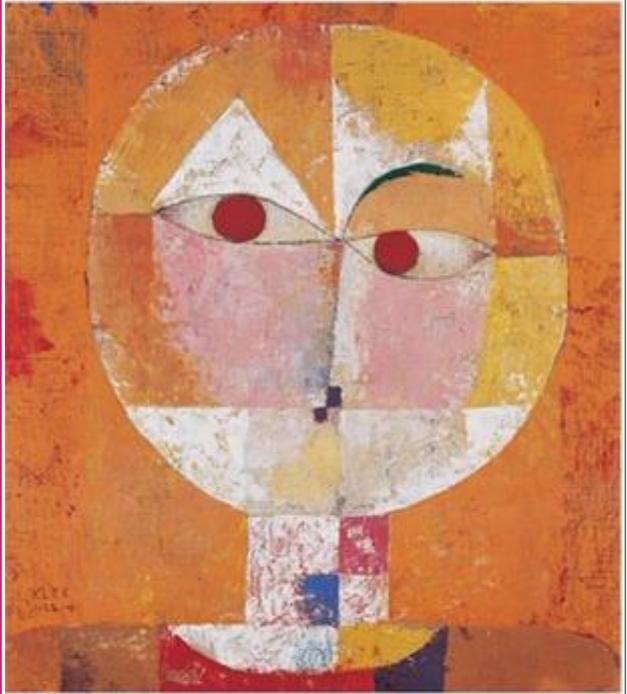
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Historical characteristics of the Golden Horde city

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Abstract

The article describes the main historical features of the city of the Golden Horde. It shows its specificity in comparison with synchronous urban settlements in various regions of Eurasia via comparative qualitative research methods. As a result, the steppe cities of UlusJuchi had both common features inherent in all medieval cities of Europe and Asia, as well as historical features associated with specific conditions of emergence and subsequent existence. In conclusion, the Golden Horde city, in comparison with other medieval cities, bears in itself features of the general and peculiar.

Keywords: Historical features, Golden, Europe, Asia.

Características históricas de la ciudad de la Horda de Oro

Resumen

El artículo describe las principales características históricas de la ciudad de la Horda de Oro. Muestra su especificidad en comparación con los asentamientos urbanos sincrónicos en varias regiones de Eurasia a través de métodos comparativos de investigación cualitativa. Como resultado, las ciudades esteparias de UlusJuchi tenían características comunes inherentes a todas las ciudades

medievales de Europa y Asia, así como características históricas asociadas con condiciones específicas de emergencia y existencia posterior. En conclusión, la ciudad de la Horda de Oro, en comparación con otras ciudades medievales, tiene características propias y generales.

Palabras clave: rasgos históricos, dorado, Europa, Asia.

1. INTRODUCTION

The city is considered an indispensable attribute of civilization, a specialized settlement with a special set of functions. In modern historical science, the city is understood as:

A specific settlement, with a special topography, with a significant dense, heterogeneous (ethnically, socially and professionally) population; commodity exchange and commodity, mainly handicraft, production, institutions of power, worship and culture are concentrated in it (BELENITSKY ET AL., 1973: 389).

The city played the role of an accelerator of ethnic and ethno cultural processes, was an active participant in the formation of material culture. The lower Volga region was the economic and political center of UlusJuchi, the center of all trade routes of the state until its collapse. Here was the domain of the Golden Horde khans, their stakes roamed, from the 40s - 50s XIII century. The town-planning activity of the Golden Horde khans in the Lower Volga region begins. Along with the newly founded cities, the Mongols also actively used the old cities of the Middle Volga and Khorezm, which

were the most significant during the entire second half of the 13th century. But gradually new ones, based on the Juchids themselves on the Lower Volga, the largest cities, as well as their districts, begin to play an increasing role in the Golden Horde.

Earlier we turned to the analysis of various aspects of the economy and economy of the population of the Golden Horde (EGOROV, 2000; FEDOROV-DAVYDOV, 1983; Nedashkovskii, 2009; Nedashkovsky, 2012; Nedashkovsky, 2015), below will be given a generalizing characteristic of the cities of this state.

2. METHODS

The main method of characterizing the cities in question is a comparative historical one (JAFARI ET AL, 2017).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The city in the Golden Horde had many functions: it was the center of developed handicrafts and trade, had its own agriculture and crafts, was associated with a relatively large area (and not just the nearby district), was ruled by special officials (rulers of regions and cities). The administration was the focus of religious and cultural life.

The city was inhabited by representatives of the aristocracy and other social strata, the area of the Golden Horde cities was very significant, weapons were present in the cities of the Golden Horde, and sometimes even fortifications (although the urban population of the Juchid state was poorly connected with military affairs). The population of the Golden Horde cities was multi-confessional and multi-ethnic. In most cases, the Golden Horde city did not have any fortification at all (a powerful army consisting of nomads was a guarantee of the safety of cities), which determined its relatively free development and planning structure. In the steppe zone of the Golden Horde there were no resources in the form of a coniferous forest (pine, spruce), used in the construction of dwellings in Russian cities; in view of this, the dwelling in the form of a ground log house could not be widely spread in the steppe zone of the Juchi state.

All public buildings (mosques, minarets, mausoleums, and baths) and palaces of the nobility were erected from baked bricks, ordinary dwellings - from raw material using wooden frame structures. The houses were supplied with horizontal chimney-cans, suf-beds and sinks-toshnau. The Golden Horde cities were notable for their landscaping - there were squares, ponds, wells, aryks, and fountains, running water and sewage systems, public toilets. Each major city of the Lower Volga region during the period of the existence of the UlusJuchi had its own developed district (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015; NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016).

Let us show on a wide historical background the specifics of the Golden Horde city and its surroundings in comparison with synchronous complexes of different regions of Europe and Asia.

The Golden Horde cities are closest in terms of the historical features of their emergence were the new cities of other states, formed as a result of the collapse of the Mongolian empire - Hulaguid Iran, the Jagataid state in Central Asia and the Yuan Empire in China. The Khan's power in these powers pursued a course on "streamlining trade, money supply, and safeguarding the sedentary population from looting by nomadic nobles" (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016: 216), encouraged and organized the intensive growth of cities, necessary as administrative centers, sources of handicraft products and luxury goods, which came in the process of trade with distant countries. However, "those phenomena that are clearly seen in the example of new cities in the steppe zones, are less noticeable in sedentary areas with traditional urban life and only manifested as a trend" (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016: 215). The cities in the Mongolian empire initially represented the castles of nobility and the dugouts of builders, and then the cities gradually turned into complexes of estates of the urban nobility, surrounded by quarters of the ordinary population (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016; NEDASHKOVSKY, 2004). The topography of the ancient Mongolian cities suggests that they did not arise as single, pre-planned complexes, but evolved gradually (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2004: 41). Captive slaves played an important role in the relatively rapid construction of urban centers (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2004), "it was on this basis that the central

authorities of the ulus created the possibility of building new cities in a historically quick timeframe” (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016: 216). Purposeful construction of rural agricultural settlements (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016) was also conducted in Hulaguid Iran, which probably also took place in the JuchiUlus. The authorities of the Mongolian empire resorted to the forced relocation of skilled craftsmen to new and restored old cities.

In the Mongolian states, there were the following types of craft organization: the small craft of individual producers, estate craft, and large craft workshops of the Karhan type (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016). The cities of the Mongolian states are united by a high level of development of trade and money circulation, as well as their non-stability - the political center, the residence of the khan and the government was the nomadic rate (horde). In Central and Central Asia, as in UlusJuchi, cities sometimes did not have fortifications (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2016). Comparison of Russian and Golden Horde cities XIII-XIV centuries has already been undertaken in the article V.L. Egorov (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2010), whose conclusions we, in particular, will rely on (LESTARI ET AL, 2019: KRASNIQI, G., & FILIPI, 2019).

After the Mongol invasion, the ancient Russian cities continued the long line of their previous development. Practically all the ancient Russian cities had fortifications - fortress walls. Outside the walls of the city lived a prince or other representatives of the nobility, as well as the squad and the clergy; around the fortified part of the ancient

Russian city was located trade and craft posad. The ancient Russian cities were almost entirely wooden: dwellings, outbuildings, fences, bridges, embankments, and pavements were made of wood. The dominant form of the dwelling in the Old Russian city was a ground log house. There were only a few stone temples, chambers, cellars, in rare cases - stone fortifications. A common feature of the cities of Ancient Rus and UlusJuchi is that there was a manor-quarter building in both the Golden Horde and the Old Russian cities. Different ethnic groups in cities often lived compactly. The population of the cities was attended by nobles, clergy, merchants and artisans.

The differences of the population of the Golden Horde city from the Russian are in the absence in the first (up to the second half - the end of the XIV century) any significant proportion of the military class, since the entire army of the Juchids in the early period of the history of their state was staffed exclusively from among the nomadic herdsmen. There was no need for the steppe cities of the Golden Horde (until the beginning of civil strife of the 1360s - 1370s) and fortifications. In Russia, the size of cities and the area of their estates were much smaller due to the presence of city walls that held back territorial growth. The presence in Russia of a large amount of timber forest led to the use of wood as the main building material, in UlusDzhuchi it was often replaced with raw and baked bricks. Compare the characteristics of the Western European and Golden Horde city.

In Western Europe, in the XIII – XV centuries, the medieval city reached the highest degree of its development. The Western European city brings together with the Golden Horde the existence of nobility, as well as various ethnic and confessional groups within its population. In the cities of Western Europe and the Golden Horde, there were merchants' associations, and commodity-money relations were developed in the city and district. It is noteworthy that in Western Europe “the early cities lived for about two centuries. Many of them died in the course of ordinary civil strife and raids and were too weak to rise again” (BELENITSKY ET AL., 1973; 21). It is impossible not to cite the historical parallel with the steppe cities of UlusJuchi, which almost all existed within two centuries and ceased to exist, having lost support for the khan's power during the decades of civil strife, accompanied by the blows of the neighbors of the Golden Horde. As the Golden Horde cities of the Lower Volga region could not do without the delivery of food from other regions (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015), so the Western European,

Medium-sized cities were unable to live solely at the expense of the immediate neighborhood. Large cities usually had an extensive food and raw material supply system that goes to distant, foreign markets (REPIN, 1999: 171).

It is common for Western European cities of the developed middle ages and the Golden Horde cities of the Lower Volga region that both of them contained a rather high percentage of the population: in Western Europe in the 13th century. The urban population ranged from 3-5 to more than 60% of the total population of the state

(BELENITSKY ET AL., 1973); in the large Golden Horde cities of the Lower Volga region, from 50 to 95% of the sedentary population of the entire adjacent territory lived (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015). Small cities in Western Europe “could account for about a third of the total urban population of a region” (REPIN, 1999: 171), which is close to the data obtained in the analysis of the Golden Horde complexes of monuments considered by us (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015).

Based on the data O.V. Bolshakov (BOLSHAKOV, 1984) for the cities of the Muslim East VII - the middle of the XIII century (With a rural, urban estate or free building, the population density is determined by the researcher at 15-50 people per 1 hectare), it is possible to draw approximate conclusions about the population of the Golden Horde settlements that we have considered (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015).

The largest Golden Horde cities of the Lower Volga region during their heyday had a population from 3-10 to 50-170 thousand people, small cities - from 150-500 to 1500-5000 people, rural settlements - from 15-50 to 100-350 people, villages - less than 15-50 people. It is interesting to compare these data with Western European materials of the XIII-XV centuries (BELENITSKY ET AL., 1973). Large Western European and Golden Horde cities were approximately the same in terms of the number of inhabitants: from 10 to 100 thousand people for Western Europe and about 3–170 thousand for the Golden Horde, according to our calculations. The average cities of Western Europe had 3-5 thousand inhabitants, small - from 500 to

1500 people; these data are close to the obtained values for the group of small towns of UlusJuchi selected by us - 150–5000 inhabitants.

The city of Western Europe of the XIII – XV centuries, unlike the Golden Horde, relied on a long tradition of previous development. The early city in medieval Western Europe had primarily political, defensive and commercial functions; the early medieval "city had a pronounced agrarian imprint and rarely possessed special rights" (BELENITSKY ET al., 1973: 21). In the developed Middle Ages, the city received from the authorities its status, enshrined in the letter; in medieval sources, the city had a number of distinctive features:

the wall and fortifications, many streets and residents, the majestic town hall, the cathedral, many churches and other large buildings, the port, markets and administrative institutions, a cluster of various authorities, a spectacle, a colorful street crowd (BELENITSKY ET AL., 1973: 15).

Stone walls and numerous stone buildings (sometimes having several floors that determined a high population density), private law, self-government, corporations (guilds, workshops) also markedly distinguished the medieval city of Western Europe of the XIII-XV centuries from the Golden Horde. Let us compare the Golden Horde cities with the Middle East and Central Asian X – XIII centuries.

In the Middle East and Central Asia in the cities in the XI-XII centuries closed quarters appear with gates locked at night (TERRA, 2014; STUZHINA, 1979). The number, size of cities and the urban population in the Middle East in the VII – XIII centuries did not

change significantly. The large and small cities of the Middle East and Central Asia were close in terms of the number of inhabitants (TERRA, 2014; STUZHINA, 1979) to the corresponding Golden Horde urban settlements. The commodity-money relations were strongly developed in the Muslim East, and the city government was practically absent - the city was completely subordinated to the state apparatus (TERRA, 2014). In the Central Asian and Middle Eastern cities, as in the Golden Horde, there were reservoirs and public baths; In the urban centers of Central Asia there were irrigation canals, public toilets, water pipes from ceramic pipes and washbasins-Tushnau (STUZHINA, 1979) were used, as well as in the cities of UlusJuchi.

The urban population of pre-Mongol Central Asia was high — in various areas from 20 to 50% of the population (STUZHINA, 1979), which was probably close to the situation in UlusJuchi. For the cities of the Merv oasis and Ilak, food imports from other regions were recorded (STUZHINA, 1979); a similar phenomenon was evidently observed in the Golden Horde urban centers of the Lower Volga region. It is possible to compare the Golden Horde city with the rather well-studied Chinese city of the 11th – 13th centuries.

The largest Chinese cities in the XI – XIII centuries mainly arose in the territories most convenient for trade or in areas where the production of handicraft raw materials was developed; urban settlements served as administrative centers, fortresses, centers of handicrafts and commerce (STUZHINA, 1979). The following

features of the Chinese city of the 11th – 13th centuries are highlighted:

Location on state land; complete absence of urban community and self-government; the division of cities into administrative districts and neighborhoods with strict subordination to the authorities; state control over all forms of trade and craft activities (SVANIDZE, 1999: 94).

The Chinese cities were much ahead of the Golden Horde in terms of the number of inhabitants; they had trade and craft corporations. In China, in contrast to the UlusJuchi, “the bulk of handicraft products were still produced in the village” (SVANIDZE, 1999: 266). Residents of medieval Chinese cities, like residents of the Golden Horde (NEDASHKOVSKY, 2015), were engaged in farming; In the Chinese cities, there were also large craft workshops (STUZHINA, 1979). The largest Chinese, like the Golden Horde, cities were supplied with food not only from nearby territories, but also from very remote areas. In Song China, as in the Golden Horde, there were large merchant associations (SVANIDZE, 1999).

4. SUMMARY

The steppe cities of UlusJuchi had both common features inherent in all medieval cities of Europe and Asia, as well as historical features associated with specific conditions of emergence and subsequent existence. The specific features of the Golden Horde city

include: 1) The absence of a traceable process of transition from settlements to cities, since cities arose not as a result of a long previous development of the network of settlements, but on the initiative and with the support of the UlusJuchi administration; 2) The absence, in most cases, of any fortification, which determined the relatively free development and planning structure of the city; 3) Public buildings (mosques, minarets, mausoleums, baths) and palaces of the nobility were erected from baked bricks, ordinary dwellings - from raw material using wooden frame structures; 4) Houses were supplied with horizontal chimney-cans, sufah-beds, and tosnau sinks; 5) improvement of cities with squares, ponds, wells, aryks, fountains, water supply and sewage systems, public toilets.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The Golden Horde city, in comparison with other medieval cities, bears in itself features of the general and peculiar.

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