Історія

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Shortepe fortified settlement and early Barda town in Garabagh*Huseyn Mammadzadeh, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences*

Shortepe situated near Shatirli village of Barda in Garabagh region of Azerbaijan Republic. Archaeological excavations gave us an opportunity to research antique and early medieval period of the city. Shortepe is one of the biggest antique and early medieval settlements of Azerbaijan. The settlement situated near Shatirli village in Barda region. There situated Bronze Age settlement Balatepe which were one of the important centers of Kura-Araxes (proto-albanians) tribes, Bronze Age kurgans and Shortepe archaeological complex in Shatirli village. As a result of the research, four cultural strata were discovered. The first layer belongs to the Kur-Araz culture. In this layer, hearth-shaped and horseshoe-shaped hearths were found. In the second layer, painted and simple vessels typical of the Middle Bronze Age were found, and in the third layer, stone box-type tombs and long-necked clay vessels were found. The fourth layer is located at a depth of 0.3-0.9 m. Earthen graves belonging to children and the elderly were found in this layer. There are considerable information about Barda city and a region where it is situated in the works of authors of Antic and Early Middle Ages. Archeologists C.Morqan, N.Silosani, İ.Babayev, R.Goyushov, A.Nuriyev, H.Jafarov, F.Osmanov, A.Mammadov, M.Huseynov had been researched in Barda. According to professor A.M.Mammadov, Shortepe monument is remains of ancient Barda that called "Harum" in the works of Nizami Ganjavi. The article was dedicated to antique and early medieval fortified settlement Shortepe, which researchers prove that the settlement was an ancient Barda town. We can localize it with Anariaka antique Caucasian Albanian settlement. Archaeological excavations were continued in 2006-2016 years regularly. Archaeological excavations had been led in Shortepe in 2014. Scientific researches had been continued in the size of 10x10 m and the area had been divided 4 square. In the result of the archaeological excavations has been got the material examples which dedicated to the antique and early medieval period. In 2015 year archaeological excavations continued. Fortified part of settlement and pit graves was unearthed during digs. Scientific investigations show that Shortepe was ancient city of Garabagh region of Azerbaijan.

Keywords: *Shortepe, Garabagh, Caucasian Albania, Azerbaijan, settlement*

Зміцнене селище Шортепе і раннє місто Барда в Карабасі*Гусейн Мамедзаде, Інститут археології та етнографії Азербайджанської національної академії наук*

Шортепе розташоване поблизу села Шатирлі Барда в Карабахському районі Азербайджанської Республіки. Археологічні розкопки дали нам можливість дослідити античний та ранньосередньовічний період міста. Шортепе – одне з найбільших античних та ранньосередньовічних поселень Азербайджану. Поселення, розташоване поблизу села Шатирлі в районі Барда. У селі Шатирлі розташоване поселення бронзового віку Балатепе, яке було одним з важливих центрів племен Кура-Араксів (прото-албанців), курганів бронзового віку та археологічного комплексу Шортепе. У результаті досліджень було виявлено чотири шари культури. Перший шар належить до Кур-Аразської культури. У цьому шарі були виявлені вогнищеподібні та підковоподібні вогнища. У другому шарі були знайдені розписні та прості посудини, характерні для середньої бронзи, а в третьому шарі – кам'яні могили коробчатого типу та глиняні посудини з довгим горлом. Четвертий шар розташований на глибині 0,3–0,9 м. У цьому шарі були знайдені земляні могили, що належали дітям та людям похилого віку. Існує значна інформація про місто

Барда та регіон, де воно знаходиться, у працях авторів античного та раннього середньовіччя. У Барді були проведені дослідження археологів К. Моркана, Н. Сілосани, І. Бабаєва, Р. Гоюшова, А. Нурієва, Х. Джафарова, Ф. Османова, А. Мамедова, М. Гусейнова. За словами професора А. М. Мамедова, пам'ятник Шортпе – це залишки стародавньої Барди, яку в роботах Нізами Ганджави називали «Харум». Стаття була присвячена античному та ранньосередньовічному укріпленому поселенню Шортпе, дослідники доводять, що поселення було древнім містом Барда. Ми можемо локалізувати це за допомогою античного поселення кавказьких албанців Анаріяки. Археологічні розкопки продовжувались у 2006–2016 рр. регулярно. Археологічні розкопки були проведені в Шортпе в 2014 р. Продовжувались наукові дослідження розміром 10х10 м, а площа була розділена на 4 кв. У результаті археологічних розкопок отримані матеріальні зразки, присвячені античному та ранньому середньовічному періоду. У 2015 р. археологічні розкопки тривали. Під час розкопок було розкопано укріплену частину поселення та ямних могил. Наукові дослідження показують, що Шортпе було древнім містом Карабахського району Азербайджану.

Ключові слова: *Шортпе, Карабах, Кавказька Албанія, Азербайджан, поселення*

Укрепленный поселок Шортпе и ранний город Барда в Карабахе

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Шортпе расположен недалеко от села Шатырли Барда Карабахского района Азербайджанской Республики. Археологические раскопки дали нам возможность исследовать античный и раннесредневековый периоды города. Шортпе – одно из крупнейших античных и раннесредневековых поселений Азербайджана. Поселок расположен недалеко от села Шатырли Бардинского района. Здесь расположено поселение Балатепе бронзового века, которое было одним из важных центров куро-аракских (протоалбанских) племен, курганы бронзового века и археологический комплекс Шортпе в селе Шатырли. В результате исследования было обнаружено четыре культурных пласта. Первый слой относится к Кур-Аразской культуре. В этом слое обнаружены очаги очаговой и подковообразной формы. Во втором слое обнаружены расписные простые сосуды, характерные для среднего бронзового века, а в третьем слое – каменные гробницы коробчатого типа и глиняные сосуды с длинной шеей. Четвертый слой находится на глубине 0,3–0,9 м. В этом слое были обнаружены земляные могилы детей и стариков. О городе Барда и районе, в котором он расположен, имеется немало сведений в произведениях авторов античного и раннего средневековья. В Барде были проведены исследования археологов Ч. Моргана, Н. Силосани, И. Бабаева, Р. Гоюшова, А. Нуриева, Х. Джафарова, Ф. Османова, А. Мамедова, М. Гусейнова. По словам профессора А. М. Мамедова, памятник – Шортпе это остатки древней Барды, которую в произведениях Низами Гянджеви именовал «Харум». Статья посвящена античному и раннесредневековому городищу Шортпе, исследователи которого доказывают, что это городище было древним городом Барда. Мы можем локализовать его с помощью античного поселения кавказских албанцев Анариака. В 2006–2016 гг. археологические раскопки продолжались регулярно. В 2014 году в Шортпе были проведены археологические раскопки. Продолжались научные исследования в размере 10х10 м, территория была разделена на 4 кв. В результате археологических раскопок были получены материальные образцы, посвященные античному и раннему средневековью. В 2015 г. археологические раскопки продолжились. Укрепленная часть поселения и ямные могилы были обнаружены при раскопках. Научные исследования показывают, что Шортпе был древним городом Карабахского района Азербайджана.

Ключевые слова: *Шортпе, Карабах, Кавказская Албания, Азербайджан, поселение*

Introduction:

Shortepe situated near Shatirli village of Barda in Garabagh region of Azerbaijan Republic. Archaeological excavations gave us an opportunity to research antique and early medieval period of the city. Shortepe is one of the biggest antique and early medieval settlements of Azerbaijan. The settlement situated near Shatirli village in Barda region. There situated Bronze Age settlement Balatepe which were one of the important centers of Kura-Araxes (proto-albanians) tribes, Bronze Age kurgans and Shortepe archaeological complex in Shatirli village. There are considerable information about Barda city and a region where it is situated in the works of authors of Antic and Early Middle Ages. Archeologists C. Morqan, N.Silosani, İ.Babayev, R.Goyushov, A.Nuriyev, H.Jafarov, F.Osmanov, A.Mammadov, M.Huseynov had been researched in Barda. According to professor A.M.Mammadov, Shortepe monument is remains of ancient Barda that called "Harum" in the works of Nizami Ganjavi.

During excavations unearthed the remains of the fortress walls and citadel which concerning to VII–VI centuries B.C. (Figure 5), also, clay seal on a coin writing cuneiform on it that cut in Anatolia marks the X century B.C., a woman statue called "Goddess Nushaba" related IV century B.C. and ruler of Caucasian Albanian – Girdman prince Javanshir's statue and others (Mammadov, 2014; Mammadov, Aliyev, 2013; Mammadov et al. 2015; Mammadov et al., 2016). According to professor A. M. Mammadov, as a result of sustainable development of center of proto-albanian-gargar tribes Barda was formed as a settlement in III millennium B.C. in the territory of Balatepe (Mammadov, 2014). The monuments in Barda such as "King's Kurgan", "Ruler's Kurgan" and "Commander's Kurgan" inform us about the ancient history of statehood traditions and urban culture in the Caucasian Albania. Barda was a centre of Albanian Catholicos since 552 to 797 AD (During Caucasian Albanian reign: Catholicos Abas (552–596), Catholicos Viro (596–628), Catholicos Zakhariyya II (628–645), Catholicos Iohann II (646–671),

Catholicos Ukhtanes (672–683), Catholicos Nerses (690–704); During Caliphate reign: Catholicos Simeon I (705–706), Catholicos Michael (707–742), Catholicos Anastas (742–746), Catholicos Joseph (747–762), Catholicos Davud II (763–767), Catholicos Davud III (768–777), Catholicos Matheos (778–780), Catholicos Moisey II (780), Catholicos Haaron (781–782), Catholicos Solomon I (782), Catholicos Teodoroth (782–786), Catholicos Solomon II (786–797) – in 797 Catholicos centre moved to Bardakur city) (Kalankatuklu, 2006). It known such names as Anariaka, Barda, Barza, Partav, Harum and Firuzabad in the historical sources. According to professor A. M. Mammadov, before Barda was a part of an old state of Azerbaijan Manna, then the part of the Caucasian Albania (Mammadov, 2014). The researchers coordinate the name of Barda with Parda in Manna which was an ancient state of Azerbaijan and with Scythian king Partatua's name. Barda is called "Arran's mother", "the biggest city" of Caucasus by the Early Medieval authors, due to the Eastern world Barda was "the second biggest city" after Baghdad and so on. They note that Barda was located at the crossroads for international trade (Mammadov, Jafarov, Hasilov, & Aliyev, 2005, p. 48–49). There was the largest market called El-Kurki, it was larger than Gulsure market in Baghdad. Arabian historian Ibn-Hovgal wrote in X century: "Regarding Barda city... it is a mother of Arran and the best place here... there is not so big, productive place as Barda between Irag and Tabaristan according to its position and treasure income..." (Hawgal, 1908). More than one hundred thousand people lived in Barda in the Early Medieval period. Generation of great scientists with "Bardai" nickname like as Ahmed ibn Ibrahim Bardai, Abdurrahman ibn Jafer Bardai, Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Yahya Bardai, Abu Jafer Bardai, Abu Ali Bardai, Abu Abdullah Bardai, Ibn Safwan Bardai, Abu Amr Bardai, Abu Uthman Bardai, Abu Saeed Bardai, Abu-l Hasan Ali ibn Mardak Bardai, Ibn Yusuf Bardai, Abu Hanifa Muhammad ibn Abdurrahman ibn Malik Bardai, Abu Bakr Ahmed ibn Muhammad ibn Ali Bardai, Abu Zur'a Bardai, Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Abdullah Bardai, Ahmed Bardai, Abu Saeed

Hasan ibn Ali Bardai, Abu Saeed Ahmed ibn Abdulaziz Bardai and other scholars who born in Barda and well-known with their works in Near and Middle East (Nasirov, 2011), (Nuriyev, & Babayev, 2001). They got religious and secular education in Barda and other educational centers of Muslim countries of the world. Among the scholars were mathematicians, engineers, physicians, lawyers, poets, speakers, astrologers and politicians from Barda (Mammadov 2014), (Mammadov, Jafarov, Hasilov, & Aliyev, 2005, p. 50–51).

Russian academician V. V. Bartold said that it is impossible to learn Azerbaijan history without learning of Barda's history (Bartold, 1963). There are different types of monuments in separate periods in Shortepe and in the whole territory of Barda. Balatepe was formed as an urban settlement in the end of the Bronze Age – Early Iron Age. Professor H. Jafarov found mold for metal preparing and pottery product patterns and other residues of cultural heritage in the settlements Early and middle Bronze ages that belong to urban culture during his excavation in Balatepe in 1981 (Jafarov, 2000). Shortepe has been developed as trade, art and cultural center in the Antique period (Mammadov, 2014), (Mammadov, Aliyev, 2013, p. 209–210). Shortepe multilayered settlement is one of such monuments of Barda district in Garabagh.

Archaeological excavation proves that the castle walls lies till ground barrier now it called Barda Tomb in the early Middle Ages when it was capital city and has changed its place according of Slavs attacks in 944. The second capital of Caucasian Albania Barda (Partav) has become one of the most important political and economic centers. Barda was the center of Uti province of Albania and also capital and religious center of Caucasian Albania in Early Medieval period (Kalankatuklu, 2006). Barda located on international trade routes from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea, from Volga and the North Caucasus to the different parts of the Caliphate. As we mentioned Shortepe archaeological complex is a place where ancient Barda was situated and Shortepe is important historical and archaeological point of view. To study of the monument

gave number of important innovations by archaeological point of view. In this regard, Shortepe has a scientific importance and unique for antiquity of the right side provinces of Albania.

Professor A. B. Nuriyev systematically led archaeological research systematically from 1984 to 2004. Professor A. M. Mammadov systematically led archaeological excavations in 2005–2015. More than 60 new monuments were registered in Barda and around it in 2005–2015 years. These monuments cover a period of at least 5000 years (from the Late Chalcolithic till Middle Ages). Barda archaeological expedition had been continued scientific researches in Shortepe archaeological complex in 2013–2015 years (Figure 6; 7; 8; 9; 10). Archaeological researches had been led in Balatepe in 2013 (Mammadov, Aliyev, & Rajabov, 2015: 236–237). Size of archaeological excavation area was 10x10 m. Scientific research had been led in 2 square. During the archaeological excavations had been got material examples which concerning to the Bronze Age. Systematical archaeological excavations had been led in Shortepe in 2008-2015 (Figure 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10). Scientific research had been continued in the size of 20x20 m and the area had been divided 4 square in 2015 (Mammadov, Aliyev and Rajabov, 2015: 236-237) (Mammadov, Aliyev, & Rajabov, 2016) (Figure 6; 9; 10). In the result of the archaeological excavations has been got the material examples which concerned to the antique and early medieval period. It had been unearthed 4 jar coffins during the archaeological excavations. Grave N 1 was a woman grave which unearthed skeleton, also garment things like as beads, bronze rings and cosmetic glass inside of grave camera (Figure 3). Grave N 2 was a man grave which found skeleton lied on left position (Figure 2). Grave N 3 was a woman grave, too. Grave N 4 was an infant grave which unearthed beads and bronze metal (Figure 4). Jar coffins concerned to I–II centuries AD.

The Barda archaeological expedition continued its excavations at the Shortepe Archaeological Complex in the village of Shatirli in Barda district in 2015. It began

with the expansion of the southeastern part of the archaeological excavation in 2014. First, a pit grave N 1 was opened in the first excavation site and was buried in the north-west direction. As soon as the right part was opened, parts of the human bones – articular and ankle bones and finger parts were found inside the grave pit. When it reached the bottom of the pit, it was found beads, two rings, and a fragrance pot. The beads are made of paste and glass. In most beads, the bead element is noticeable. As it is known, Tengrism used eye beads. Note that this type of hanging was also found in the Eastern Mediterranean monuments (Phoenician monuments). Some of the glass beads are flat and round. The materials obtained suggest that the No. 1 pit was owned by a woman (Mammadov, Aliyev, & Rajabov, 2016, p. 2–4). A 2x2-pound pit grave, located 130x90 cm near the north-western wall of the excavation site, has been cleared. During this time, a plate plate was found near the mouth of the pit. Inside the yellow bowl, there were also bones. A bowl-shaped bowl was found at the bottom of the pit at a depth of 1 meter. The inside of the container was yellowish-greenish. It is a color formed by the collapse of the food residue inside it. Recall that the same food color was also found inside the barrel-type container that was laid during burial last year near the mouth of the pit No. 1. The grave of N 2 was opened to the left at the top. The mouthpiece of this pit is patterned. In the pit, the skeleton extended with the left upper limb in a twisted position. After the skeleton was fully cleaned, it was measured and found to be 185 cm in height. The head turned upside down due to the compression of the pit from the left side. A spear tip was found on the upper part of the foot in the upper part of the iron. We can say that the pit No. 2 belongs to a man. In the 2nd excavation site, another pit grave was found to the south-west from the pit grave No. 2 mentioned above. The direction of the pit No. 3 is in the southeast direction. The upper part of the pit was destroyed. When they opened, one true bead and finger bones were discovered, including foot bones. A white ornamental pot was found near the grave pit (Mammadov, Aliyev, & Rajabov, 2016, p. 7–8). An important finding as a result of

archeological excavations is the discovery of a two-row seal in the southeast part of the II excavation site. After excavating to a depth of 1m, the prevailing 15x12x10 cm seals were witnessed. It was impossible to reach the base of the excavated structure to a depth of 2 m. It is possible that its foundation is 5 m deep. Thus, this building belongs to an older stage, not to be the same period as the cemetery. This can be clearly stated on the basis of the materials obtained and the archaeological layer. After excavation of the excavated part of the building, it was determined that the excavation site continued along it. Considering that the excavation site is located to the south of the Shortepe monument and its structure is not a typical living room, it is identified as part of a remnant of the southern defensive wall of the city. The fact that this city's site is a remnant of the southern part of the citadel is clear from the plan of the defensive wall of the common Shortepe settlement. After cleaning the remnant, as a result of our archeological excavations at a distance of 200 meters to the east of the monument, we recorded the remnants of the defensive wall in that direction. On the basis of the protective wall that was involved in the survey, a 3 D form of this building of the Shortepe settlement was prepared. It should be noted that one of the important results of archeological excavations in 2008–2015 should be mentioned. Archeological excavations were still carried out in the 70-80s of the last century, and although the site of the protective wall of the dwelling was presumably estimated, no remains were found during the excavation. It is in this respect that the remnants of the southern part of the defensive wall discovered in the current year help to clarify certain issues (Mammadov, Aliyev, & Rajabov, 2016, p. 10–11).

A small lid of 1.5 m was found in the southwest part of the defense wall. There was a soft soil under the cover. From there, human bones were found to be scattered to the east. So those bones consisted of only one foot and toes, one arm and toes (Mammadov, Aliyev and Rajabov, 2016, p. 14–15). It was prepared 3D (three dimension) format plan of Shortepe fortification and citadel (Figure 1).

As a result of the archaeological excavations we can give a scientific information about the archaeological layers of Shortepe: 1) VII-VI centuries B.C. (Scythian period); 2) V-IV centuries B.C.; 3) III-I centuries B.C. (Hellenistic period); 4) I-III centuries AD; 5) IV-V centuries AD. There were lived scythians, saks, albanians, gargars and anariaks (Mammadov, Aliyeva and Rajabov, 2016, p. 15). According to Strabo, that Anariaka and Ayniana cities were situated in Uti province of Caucasian Albania (Strabo, 1879). In our opinion, Anariaka was Shortepe which scythians and albanians-gargars with anariaks lived together.

Conclusion:

According to research, the pottery of the Early Bronze Age of Shortepe can be attributed to the end of the 5th millennium BC - the first half of the 3rd millennium BC. The end of the 5th millennium BC It can be attributed to the first half of the third millennium. During the archeological excavations, very few Middle Bronze Age pottery was found in the settlement. In contrast, the painted ceramics in the Shortapa necropolis are very rich. The pottery of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages of the monument is mainly made of gray or black. There are very few pink ceramics. The gray ceramic product consists of pieces of bowls and jugs. The culture of the Early Iron Age of Nakhchivan attracts attention by following the elements of Khojaly-Gadabay culture. As is known, this culture

is mainly characterized by gray ceramics. In the southeastern corner of the II excavation site, a 4-pound tomb was discovered. At the head of the cemetery, two whole pots were revealed. There were two locks in the grave pit outside the defense wall. While cleaning the cemetery, it turned out that it was in the southeast direction. It is possible to say that it is a small child's grave because it is small. While cleaning the inside, beads, 1 pair of earrings, an iron bullet tip, charcoal scrap and bone fragments were found. Beads are glass and paste. There are triangular shapes and beads. The triangular shape resembles hanging beads from Hasankaya earthen grave (Khojali-Gadabay culture). The earrings are made of bronze. The pit No. 2 was revealed to the right of the grave at a depth of 2m with a pit and a mouth. In the north-west of the excavation site, a large farm pit was found. There was coal in it. Certainly, this farm pit is older than the aforementioned pit. Another interesting finding was the discovery of a pebble in the northeast corner of the economic pit. At 1m depth, from the north to the south, and the base of the river stone, the floor is completed with two or three-dimensional 45x45x12 cm. Between tea and raw bricks is filled with a special plaster. There were also fragments of pottery. In the north-east corner of the II excavation site, a red area appeared. The length of the structure we have just mentioned is 11.7 m. But in both directions it is clear that the building continues.

Figure 1. Fortified settlement Shortepe (3D version by T.V.Aliyev & H.A.Mammadzadeh)

Figure 2. Jar coffin N 2 at Shortepe archaeological site

Figure 3. Artifacts from jar coffin N 1

Figure 4. Artifacts from jar coffin N 4

Figure 5. Fortified walls of Shortepe

**Figure 6. Plan of archaeological excavation area in 2015
(T.V.Aliyev & H.A.Mammadzadeh)**

Figure 7. Big pitcher remain in Shortepe (2015)

**Figure 8. Plan of Archaeological excavation area (Shortepe 2014)
(T.V.Aliyev & H.A.Mammdzadeh)**

Figure 9. Archaeological excavation area in Shorpete (2015)

Figure 10. Archaeological excavation area in Shorpete (2015)

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