

PSEUDOTANIAN COINS OF SOGD

Musakayeva A. A.

Uzbekistan, Tashkent.State Museum of History of
Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, Doctor PhD

RESUME

The article deals with the problems of the pseudotanian coinage of Sogd. The classification of coins developed by the author is presented. The issues of dating these coins are considered.

Keywords: coin, money turnover, pseudothan coinage, weight, weight, Sugd.

INTRODUCTION

There are coins in Central Asia, that are known as not traditional for local coins. They have a round shape and a square hole in the center. This form of coins in Sugd appears as a result of close trade and economic ties with China. It is known that in the III - II centuries. BC. under the influence of Hellenistic prototypes in Sugd the imitations of the coins of Alexander, Antiochus, Euthydemus appear.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Like that in the VII - VIII centuries. under the influence of China in Sugd coins of the type of Chinese coins with a square hole appear which, received in the literature the name of the pseudotan. For almost two centuries, these coins have won the domestic market of Sugd, which became the basis of domestic monetary circulation. In the beginning, they imitate Chinese characters (Kai Yuan Tun Bao) quite clearly. Then imitations of the Chinese coins "kai yuan tun bao" become more and more distant from prototypes: the outlines of the hieroglyphs themselves become unclear, merge. Then in the place of Chinese characters in the regions of East and South Sugd the coins with Sogdian legends, transferring the title and the name of the rulers of Sugd come. In Bukhara Sugd, imitations of coins with a square hole have their own characteristics and, in our view, reflect the fullest, exactly the initial stage of the appearance of pseudo-coins. It is known that in China in 621y. A new type of bronze coin "Kai Yuan Tun Bao" was installed - a "coin-bearing coin of the beginning of the government". This type of new coin has become widespread outside of China in the whole economically connected world. This type of coin lasted more than 1200 years in China [1: 18; 4: 36]. Where the very first coins with the non-diffuse outlines of hieroglyphs were issued is not yet known yet. Until recently, there was no data on the localization of coins in the Tang type with Bukhara tamga on the reverse side [4:35]. However, new finds in the vicinity of the Varakhsha and Paykent settlements allowed to localize them within the limits of Western Sugd [7:167; Table 41-44; 8:Figure 8-9-11]. In Bukhara Sugd there are known finds of coins "kai yuan tun bao", but they are imitations of a different appearance than in Eastern and Southern Sugd and, possibly, somewhat earlier in their release. It should be noted that since the beginning of the minting of pseudo-coins in monetary circulation of Sugd, a new technique for making coins has appeared-casting. This technique appears here under the influence of Tang China. The typology of coins of Bukhara

Sogd with a square hole is partially published, but there is no complete classification analysis. Based on new finds from the vicinity of Varakhsha, museum collections of the State Museum of Uzbekistan's History of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, archaeological finds from the Paykent settlement, a classification of pseudotan coins for Bukhara Sugd was developed. This technique appears here due to the influence of Tang China, which is partly a reliable indicator for the dating of coins made in the molding technique. The beginning of the minting of pseudotan coins in Bukhara Sugd can be dated from the time of recognition of the power of China by the Western Turks in 657-659y.[2: 22].

Classification of coins by the type of the Tang coinage

Type I. Coins of the Tang type with clear hieroglyphs

Ob.v. On the sides of the square hole there are 4 Chinese characters (kai yuan tung bao), framed by a thick rim. Rev. Without images. At the edges of the square hole is a thin rim, along the edge of the coin a thick bezel.

GMIUz

H-462/21. W. 3.98g., D. 24.8x25 mm. (Pic. 1, 1);

St.H. 34829.

Type II. Coins of the Tang type with spreading hieroglyphs and Bukhara tamga

Obv. On the sides of the square hole there are blurred outlines of 4 Chinese characters (Kai Yuan Tun Bao), framed by a thick rim.

Rev. On the side of the square hole there is a tamga of the Bukhara type with a square in the center and slightly rounded sprouts that extend from each corner. At the edge of the coin is a thick bezel. It was possible to fix 15 copies of this type of coins.

H-462/17 w.-3.63 g. D-24 mm;

H-462/22 w.3.98g. D. 24.8x25;

H-462/23 w. 2.81 g. D. 23,4x23,7mm;

H-462/24 w. 3.82 g. D. 25.2 x 25.4 mm. (Pic 1,2)

The remaining 11 copies of this type of coins originate from A. Nurullayev's private collection, they are found in the vicinity of Varakhsha. Three copies of this type of coins were found at the Paykent settlement [8: Fig.8 №9,10,11]. Thus, 18 copies of this type of coins were recorded.

Type III. Coins of the Tang type with spreading hieroglyphs and y-shaped tamga and a short Sogdian inscription

Obv. There are heavily distorted, blurred images of Chinese characters on the sides of a square hole, around a thick bezel around the coins.

Rev. to the left of the square hole, there is a y-shaped tamga, the lower yew is bent to the right toward the square hole, the two upper ones diverge sideways. To the right of the square hole there is a short Sogdian legend clockwise: "ʙyy".

From the private collection of A.Nurullayev (Pic. 1,3);

St.H-34832; St.H-9494 (Penjikent); Samarkand Museum CI H 633 St.H-34833; St.H, KP 583/1956 (Afrasiab).

Type IV. Coins with a square hole with Nestorian crosses.

Obv. On top of a square hole framed by a relief ridge, the Sogdian legend of three signs is represented. To the right of the square hole there is a Bukhara tamga in the form of a circle with four antennae, two on top and bottom, to the left – a Chinese hieroglyphs in the form of the letter "π" with a horizontal stroke over the cap. From the bottom of the square hole Sogdian legend of three signs. Around there is a linear bezel.

Rev. on the right and left of the square hole framed by a relief ridge, one Nestorian cross is depicted.

There are recorded 4 copiescoins of this type: one copy from the collection GMIUz H-462/18 w 1.92 g.; D. 17.5x17.2 mm. (Pic.1, №4).

Three other coins were found in the vicinity of Varahsha (a private collection of A. Nurullaev). According to research by VA. Livshits on the coins with a square hole, found during excavations of Paykent there, is an inscription represented by one word: «ptknδ» – «patkanδ» which gives the name of the ancient settlement Paykent. These coins he dates on the last quarter of the VII century. [5: 167]. Photo or a more detailed description of these coins, unfortunately, V.A. Livshits does not represent. In our opinion, he had in mind exactly the type IV coins with Nestorian crosses. Moreover, in the inscriptions of these coins, he sees a Bukharian letter similar to the inscription on a silver jug with the figures of priestesses under the arches from the Perm region.

Type V. Coins with a square hole and two Bukhara tamgas.

Obv. On top of the square hole there is a Sogdian legend of three signs: "γwβ". At the bottom there is a cross – the sign "shi" – "10", on the right and left of the square hole there is one Bukhara tamga in the form of a circle with 4 sprouts - two on top and two at the bottom. The rim is thick. Around the square hole there is a relief edge.

Rev. is without images, around the square hole there is a relief edge.

There are known 9 coins of this type, one of which is stored in the collection of GMIIU H-462/19. B. 1.47; D. 17 mm. (Pic. 1,5).

The rest were found in the vicinity of the Varakhsha site (A.Nurullayev's private collection).

CONCLUSION

For coins of types 2 and 3, the prototype of Chinese pseudotan coins is fairly clear - the coins "Kai Yuan Tun Bao", coins of these types have the same hieroglyphs as the prototype, but with slightly less distinct outlines. Coins of types 4 and 5 have no such hieroglyphs, only a hieroglyph in the form of a letter π with a horizontal bar over the upper cap (type-4) and a cross located below the square hole (type-5) remained from the Chinese prototype. The cross, transfers the image of the figure "10". On coins of China, both early and later, it occurs quite often [6:15, Table 4]. They are much smaller in size.

The weight of coins of the first type is 3.98 g.

Weight of coins of the second type: w.-3.63; w.3.98; w. 2.81 g.; w. 3.82g.

Coins of the third type: Weight of coins of the fourth type: w. 1.92g. Weight of coins of the fifth type: w. 1.47g. The weight of coins of the fourth and fifth types is almost more than 2 times higher than the weight of coins of the preceding types,

The constant element of all imitative coins of this group is the Bukhara tamga, except for coins of the third type. Tamga on the coins of the third type has a "Y" -shaped shape and, probably, Samarkand origin. Judging by the places of finds: the fort of Penjikent, Afrasiab, the surroundings of Varakhsha, this mint can be localized in Samarkand Sugd. Another specimen from the Samarkand Museum reinforces our assumption, because most of the museums have replenished their collections with local finds. Thus, types of coins with a square hole and with a constant element have a hieroglyph in the shape of "π" with a small dash over the top bar, it should be allocated to group 1, the second group will include coins with the sign "shi" - "10", the sign is probably not can transfer the denomination of coins, as in Chinese prototypes. Which type of coins served as a prototype for coins of the second group is difficult to say, since only this sign remained from the prototype. A smooth transition from coins of the prototype to coins of the fourth and fifth types is not observed.

There is no picture of gradual distortion of hieroglyphs, they are almost, except one sign, completely replaced by Sogdian symbols - Sogdian signs of legend, Bukhara tamga on the front side and completely new cult symbol for coins with a square hole - two crosses of Nestorian on the sides of the square hole. The presence of Christian symbols reflects close not only trade and economic, but most of all, cultural and historical relationships between Western Sugd and Tang China. Earlier coins depicting a lion, a deer and Nestorian crosses in Western Sugd record the movement of Christian beliefs here from Iran and possibly Merv. In Bukhara Sugd, probably, there lived Christians who minted coins depicting crosses and sacred animals. Through Bukhara Sugd, Christian pilgrims moved to China along with trade caravans. And already in the VII or VIII cc. these symbols have returned again to Sugdian coins, but already indirectly through imitation of Tang coins. The question of dating the described coins is complex, there is no exact data of their finding in strictly dated archaeological layers. Coins of the second and fifth types are fixed on the ancient settlement Paykent in the layers of the middle of the VIII century. However, in the composition of the finds of coins from this site of ancient settlement there are, in our opinion, even earlier coins - these are two copies of imitation of first-generation to Asbar coins with distorted beyond recognition Sogdian legends and distorted tamgas that appear before pseudotancoins.

Considering coins of the Tang minting type not only in Bukhara Sugd, but also in Samarkand, it should be noted that already in the first half of the 7th century in Penjikent dominated the local bronze coin of the Chinese model, dominated issued on behalf of the ruler of Penjikent. Simultaneously with the coins of Penjikent, Shishpyr coins were used for the second quarter of the 7th century. and coins of Turgar in the middle of the 8th century [3, 20].¹⁸ The existence of different types of coins with a square hole in the Bukhara Sugd and in Samarkand proves that politically these were two different areas. Acknowledgment can serve the data of written sources, in particular, documents from Mount Mug. Thus, the Samarkand Treaty of 712g. says that to the Sogdian king, apart from Samarkand and his district, belonged Kesh and Nesef with all their lands. [3: 26]. Bukhara is not mentioned in this agreement. Consequently, the Bukhara

Sugd of 712, as in the earlier period, remained independent from Samarkand Sugd possession. This is confirmed by coins of pseudotan coinage, both with Bukhara tamga, and with Nestorian crosses and the sign of "she".

The flowering of the Sogdian trade activity should be attributed to the VII th century, by the time when Sogdiana was subordinated to the Turks, and later to the nominal to the Chinese. The type of round coin with a square hole appeared on the territory of Central Asia and, in particular, among the Sogdians, in the 7th century. almost immediately after their adoption as a type of nationwide Chinese coin (621 AD), and also after the establishment of China's political supremacy in Central Asia. At the same time, closer trade relations between China and Sogdiana were established [4: 35]). Finds of coins of the first and second types (with Chinese characters and their distortions in addition to the Bukhara tamga on the reverse) on the ancient settlement of Paykent in the layers of the middle of the VIII century. indicate that this type of coins could survive to that time. However, the coins of this appearance, in our opinion, are more earlier VII century. This is evidenced by earlier archaeological finds, in particular, a hum with a drawn Sogdian inscription from the settlement of Paykent, where the signs are written separately, not in italics. The numismatic material is divided, in our opinion, into the earlier (VI-VII centuries) and late (VII-VIII centuries).O.I. Smirnova for Warhman coins determines the upper limit of Varkhuman coins of 657y. when this Sogdian ihshid was approved by the Vann after the victory of Tang China over the Turks. Since that time, the type of coin of the Tang model became leading up to the third quarter of the VIII century, when the Arabic coin comes to replace it [3: 42]. Coins Bukhara Sogd by the type of pseudotan with Bukhara tamga, according to the typology of an earlier time, presumably, the second quarter of the VII century, Varkhuman's coins could not be issued earlier than the first imitation of the coins "Kai Yuan Tun Bao". They appealed until the VIII, and possibly until the middle of the VIII century.



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