

## **HEARTHES AND OVENS OF THE ADJIKUI OASIS**

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Since 2001, the survey, scientific research and excavation works are carried out systematically on the territory of Karakum desert, "Gorelde" peasant association of Bayramaly district on the base of official agreement between the Ministry of Culture and TV&Radio Broadcasting of Turkmenistan and the Ligabue Study Research Centre (Italy), at the archaeological monuments Adjikui 1 and 9, which are referred to the Bronze Age and located to the north of the Mary town.

So far, the capital excavation, survey and scientific research works have been held at the archaeological monuments of Adjikui 1 and 9. The domestic hearths, constructed inside the living houses, are available among finds discovered and studied during conducted works and remains of architectural monuments. The author took participation in this work and gives in the report an analysis of features of domestic hearths.

According to architectural data, required in life domestic hearths/ovens were built up usually in living houses of monuments of the Bronze Age. There are two types of domestic hearths: first type is domestic hearths/ovens consisting of two parts. The first part is a hearth, where the fire inflaming, the second is contiguous part which destined for cooking. There is a flue inside of contiguous wall of the second part.

The second type consists of one part and represents a hearth in the wall in which fire is inflaming.

Different types of these hearths have been constructed by masters of that epoch with high skill. Domestic hearths were smoothly covered with straw clay. It is succeeded to define that some of them were repaired repeatedly.

The domestic hearths have some peculiarities according to their types, structures and sizes. Information concerned is given in drafts applied to the report (fig. 20-29). In addition, results of special tests and researches on building methods and instruments are described in this article.

## **THE ARYAN PROBLEM AND THE BMAC (BACTRIA-MARGIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLEX)**

**Asko Parpola**

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The Aryan problem. The discovery of the BMAC has provided the missing link vital for solving the so-called Aryan problem, which in turn is important for the interpretation of the BMAC itself. But what exactly is the "Aryan problem"? By the