Oasis Settlement As The Basis For The Formation Of Inter-Settlement Cultural And Consumer Services In The Conditions Of Uzbekistan

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Abstract: The present paper examines the features of the formation of urbanization of the oases in Central Asia. The presented scheme of inter-settlement service is designed to provide the most complete coverage of the urban and rural population of oases in the context of the organization of promising group settlement systems based on territorial – production complexes and an improved transport structure.

Index Terms: oasis settlement; group settlement; inter-settlements centers; cultural and consumer services; urban and rural population; urban development; major and large cities.

1. INTRODUCTION

The oasis settlement in Central Asia is the main form of economic and urban development of the territory. In the conditions of Uzbekistan all oases are connected by a single transport infrastructure, the role of the main socio-economic nodes in them is played by major and large cities. Carrying out the main administrative, business and cultural and everyday functions on the territory of the oases, the cities of Uzbekistan have developed as the developed centers of inter-settlement cultural and consumer services, concentrating the entire completeness of public life of the population [1]. The development of inter-settlement, labor and cultural – everyday ties of the population for Uzbekistan is a complex problem, consisting of the development of inter-settlement cultural and everyday ties of the urban and rural population within separate oases. The high density of settlement within in oasis 300 people per km² with an insufficient level of social development of rural settlements, the relatively small territorial sizes of the oases led to a high inter-settlement mobility of the rural population. In the Samarkand region, for example, where the share of the rural population is 74%, the share of inter-settlement connections accounts for 70% of passenger traffic in bus services, and 98% in the railway. Most of them are distributed within the territory of the Zarafshan oasis in the zone of influence of the city of Samarkand (fig.1).

(Thus, inter-settlement ties in the Zarafshan oasis are predominantly limited by its natural boundaries. An analysis of the territorial distribution shows that 80% of all intercity connections within the Zarafshan oasis are associated with its center – the city of Samarkand. The compared mobility of the urban and gravitating population of Samarkand showed that on average, one resident of the city has 2.2 trips per day, and for the gravitating population it is 1.2 trips. This testifies to the development of central functions of Samarkand in the settlement system of oasis and the presence in the zone of influence the established labor, cultural-consumer services and other ties within a radius of 20-25 km. Within this zone, as shown by the survey results, 48% of the total member of the nonresident population, visiting cultural household and shopping facilities of Samarkand live[4]. A significant part of the population of this zone systematically travels to the city of Samarkand, not only for cultural and everyday purposes, but also to work. According to field surveys, their number is 27% of the total number of employed in industry. This is one of the highest rates in the country. The access zone of Samarkand with a radius of 20-25 km can be considered as the first stage in organizing a group system of the populated areas. The second stage includes the development of the zone with a radius of 100 km, within which the surveys show 80% of nonresident visitors to cultural and consumer services institutions of the city of Samarkand live[4]. It is in this zone, that the bulk of Samarkand socio-economic and cultural ties with other cities is concentrated. Despite the small population of these cities, which is more than 100,000 people, their interaction with Samarkand ensures the formation of urban planning and socio-economic infrastructure for settlement. Within the infrastructure, there is an intensive interaction of the rural population with service facilities as well as with the industrial production of a large city. The intensity of this interaction already at the present time meets the requirements for promising forms of group settlement. Thus, the settlement system based on the large city of Samarkand can be considered as a specific form of group settlement with a high specific weight of (up to 50%) of the rural population. It should be noted that similar group settlement systems are also being formed on the basis of Tashkent, Fergana, Urgench, Nukus, and so on. This allows us to consider this form of group settlement as typical for Uzbekistan, at this transition from extensive (agricultural) to intensive (industrial) development of the territory of oases. A characteristic feature of the existing rural settlement in Uzbekistan is an insufficient level of cultural and consumer services. This leads to a high inter-settlement mobility of the rural population. Studies show that in trade enterprises of the city of Samarkand nonresident visitors make up 56% of all buyers [4]. Thus, the high mobility of the population of rural areas in conditions of oasis settlement...
objectively contributes to the development of major and large cities as the main centers of inter-settlement cultural and consumer services. This trend reflects the specific features of the formation of oasis settlement in Uzbekistan. The main structural elements of urban settlement in Uzbekistan are major and large cities, the proportion of which is more than 50% of the total urban population [3]. Thus, the current trend of intensive formation of large cities, as the main centers of inter-settlement services will largely continue in the future. Studies show that the formation of inter-settlement cultural and household centers of low capacity is of local importance. The satisfaction of the basic needs in periodic servicing of the population of rural settlements and urban-type settlements will continue to be carried out within the framework of fairly intensive (predominantly weekly) trips to large cities. The needs of the population for periodic cultural and consumer services are characterized by intensive visits to markets, large department stores, specialized stores of urban significance, consumer services enterprises designed to meet the individual needs of the population (sewing ateliers, beauty salons, repair shops for complex household appliances, cinema, theaters, sport facilities, etc.). The high role of the listed cultural and social institutions in servicing their own and gravitating population of large cities has led to the intensive development of these objects of urban importance which have the larghest share of jobs in the planning system of large cities [5]. The issue of combining inter-settlement service facilities with suburban-urban and intercity transport nodes is most directly related to the future development of the inter-settlement service sphere within the framework of the formation of promising group settlement systems on the territory of oases. This tendency corresponds to the natural-historical formation of cities in the system of transport arteries of Uzbekistan, uniting various oases with each others. A similar pattern is characteristic in the Samarkand region, most of the settlements that are in the zone of influence of the highways connecting Samarkand with Tashkent and Bukhara. The prospective development of Samarkand along these main directions with the organization on this basis the territorial-production complex of industry provides the prerequisites for the organization of large centers of inter-settlement services outside the dense urban core (fig.2).

**Fig.2. A promising system of inter-settlement centers in the Zarafshan oasis.**

The directed development of the planning structure of settlement and transport will allow in the future to consider the centers of inter-settlement services as the main structure – forming elements of settlement, ensuring the formation of the urban planning framework of promising group systems of the populated areas, as well as the intensive development of urbanization processes on its basis outside large and largest cities.

**REFERENCES**


