

Historical Thought of Abu Raikhan Beruni

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Abstract. This article discusses the historical thinking of the encyclopedist Abu Raikhan Beruni. On the basis of the encyclopedist's work "Monuments left by ancient peoples", the opinions and views put forward by Abu Raykhan Beruni on the use of sources in historical research, problems of historical research methods, approaches to history and historical methodology are analyzed.

Historical methodology is a science that studies the methods that determine the essence of the content of history and its current problems. European scientists have created many works in this regard since the 17th century and put forward different views. Beruni is a scientist who stated that he turned away from them several centuries ago in the field of historical methodology. Until now, these views have not lost their importance. Beruni's views on the methodology of history were illuminated using comparative-historical, logical and descriptive methods based on the opinions of influential European scientists in this field. The article analyzes Beruni's views in the field of historical methodology and shows the importance and importance of them in the study of history, their relevance, and the necessity of a deeper study of the scientist's scientific heritage of the theory and methods of history.

The analysis showed that the views of Western scholars on the methodology of history are similar to Beruni's ideas and that the content is compatible with them, which was recognized by several European scholars. The high historical thinking of the scientist was clearly demonstrated in Beruni's work "Monuments from ancient peoples".

According to the scientific conclusions made in the article, Beruni's historical views in his time are scientifically relevant today and have an important place in the development of world history methodology. This, in turn, requires a more in-depth study of Beruni's works, which reflect his historical thinking, and scientific promotion at the international level.

Key words: Beruni, methodology of history, content of history, mythology, approaches to history, scientific conclusion narrative, history, methodology Hebrew, fake. Zoroastrian

Introduction

In the last quarter of the 20th century, at the beginning of the 21st century, human civilization entered a complex and conflicting period in its history. The methodology of historical science, which serves to study and research the past history of humanity, also began to change. In the course of the emergence of the first elements of the science of history in ancient times, the elements of its methodology also appeared. It is known that in the 16th-19th centuries European scientists were at the forefront of creating the methodology of the science of history. But their views on the methodology of history in this period were stated by Abu Raykhan Beruni in the first century. The contribution of the communist scientist to the world history and its methodology was great.

President of Uzbekistan Sh. As Mirziyoev noted, "The Central Asian region was known and famous all over the world as one of the major centers of the Eastern Renaissance. When talking about this, first of all, we respectfully mention the names of such thinkers as Abu Rayhan Beruni, Ibn Sina, known as Avicenna in the West, statesman and great astronomer Mirza Ulugbek. The place and

importance of the priceless heritage left by him, which is the spiritual wealth of all humanity, is incomparable" [Mirziyoev.SH.[https:// prezident.uz/uz/lists/view/1018](https://prezident.uz/uz/lists/view/1018)] 1.

Beruni, an encyclopedic scientist, who made an invaluable contribution to the development of world science with his unique works, wrote about one hundred and fifty works, 40 of which have come down to us in manuscript form. . In the history of Uzbekistan, there are many such ancient and unique works, as well as those of great importance in the history of world nations. One of such works is Abu Rayhan Beruni's "Relics from Ancient Nations". "Relics from Ancient Nations" was translated in Europe by the German orientalist Karl Eduard Zachau.

Archaeologist S.P. Tolstov wrote a preface to the Russian translation of the work, showing the importance of this work in the study of the history of Khorezm and in the study of social history. The work was translated into Uzbek by I. Abdullaev, A. Rasulov made comments. Uzbek philosopher and scientist O. In the work, Faizullaev analyzes the views of the scientist on the issues of knowledge, observation and generalization, natural phenomena, customs, paintings, legends and calendar issues. The scientists of our country created a number of historical works in the Middle Ages, the new and the most recent era. Methodology of history as a science emerged in the first half of the 19th century together with the science of history.

This subject reflects on the essence of history and the method and methodology used in the implementation of historical research. In Europe, the first ideas and views about the essence of history, what history is to be studied, began in ancient times. Elements of the science of historical methodology appeared at this time.

In the field of history in medieval Europe, there was no comprehensive work equal to Abu Rayhan Beruni's "Relics of Ancient Nations". A well-known representative of historical methodology A.S. Lappo-Danilevskiy states that the first works on historical methodology appeared in Europe only in the 16th century.[Lappo-Danilevskiy A.S. 2010; 96]. In the East, it is no exaggeration to say that the formation of the science of historical methodology began with Abu Raykhan Beruni. The work "Monuments left by the ancient peoples" is a perfect work dedicated to the methodological analysis of absurdities and uncertainties in the works written in the field of history until Beruni's time.

In the direction of historical methodology, the study of Abu Raikhan Beruni's work "Monuments left by ancient peoples" is of great importance. Based on this, this article aims to analyze Beruni's scientific heritage in the field of historical methodology, which is one of the most pressing issues. The structure of this study was based on the work "Monuments left by ancient peoples" by Berini. On the example of Beruni's work, issues such as historical methodology, object and subject of history, approaches to history and basic methods, basic principles of historical methodology, history and mythology, interdisciplinary approach to the study of history were studied and appropriate conclusions were drawn.

In the work "Monuments left by ancient peoples", the scientist gave an understanding of the science of history and the meaning of history in a short sentence, but in this sentence he expressed scientific thoughts that had a great meaning. For example, Beruni says about one of the important tasks of the science of history: "Yesterday's history is a school of life for us, a perfectly clear mirror. Looking at it, we learn a lesson, draw a conclusion, determine the future" [Beryniy, 1968; 14].

¹O'zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidenti Shavkat Mirziyoevning Islom hamkorlik tashkilotining fan va texnologiyalar bo'yicha birinchi sammitidagi nutqi // <https://prezident.uz/uz/lists/view/1018>

By the time of Beruni, various confusions and conflicting information in historical works, dates, and chronologies, which serve to illuminate past historical events and historical processes, increase, and as a result, disagreements, misunderstandings, and debates among the authors of historical works increase. He says that he aims to put an end to this confusion and debate by thoroughly researching the available sources and literature. Therefore, the scientist explains the reasons for creating the work in the preface to the work "Relics of Ancient Peoples" as follows:

"One of the writers asked me about the histories of [different] peoples, their beginnings and branches, that is, about the months and years, the differences of the historians and the reasons for these differences, famous holidays, different times and days fixed for [various] works, which some of the nations follow, some of them asked about other [rites] that are not practiced and encouraged me to explain them as clearly as possible and to [write a work] that would be understandable to the reader, without the need to search for [various] books and inquire about the owners of those books [Beryniy 1968;40].

This sentence indicates that during the period of Beruni, the content and methodological aspects of the historical works on the past development of mankind were thoroughly discussed in the Eastern world. So, it is clear that the science of historical methodology and methods was formed in the East during this period.

The Main Part

The object and subject of history in the work.

Even in the 18th century, uncertainty and confusion reigned among scientists who conducted research in the field of history in Europe about the essence of history, the object and subject of the science of history. At the beginning of the 19th century, the well-known French methodologist Pierre-Claude Francois Donou thought about the object of history in this way: "stories about private actions and especially public events give the fate of a person or an entire nation, a picture of one or several centuries [Lappo-Danilevsky A.S. 2006; 29].

In the 11th century, Beruni gave a short and understandable definition of the object and subject of the history science: "A certain period, which is counted from the beginning of a past year, is called history. In that year, with various signs and proofs, a prophet was born, or a powerful and honorable king rose up, or a nation was destroyed by a devastating general flood, an earthquake and a devastating landslide, a deadly pestilence and a severe famine... Such Certain times and histories are determined through events, and the need for this is felt in all (works) related to the world and religion" [Beruniy, 1968; 14].

In these sentences, the concept of the science of history, which reflects on the past political-economic, social and cultural-spiritual development of mankind, originates. Before Beruni, no one had studied and analyzed historical works in many ways. He researched political, religious, cultural-spiritual and values with history as object and subject. The scientist explains the essence of historical events, which are considered as the object and subject of historical knowledge in the science of modern history, and which constitute the historical process, as well as the sectoral and network structure of history. Here he clarified the tasks of history:

"Each of the peoples spread over all countries has a separate history, its kings, prophets, states or one of the events I mentioned above. With the help of this history, it determines the necessary terms in dealings and in knowing the times, and this history separates them from other peoples².

Beruni, for example, focuses on the history of regions and countries from the sectoral divisions of history, and emphasizes that each nation, country, and region has its own history, and the history of a nation and a country is different from another.

Methods

Beruni: approaches to history and basic methods.

The methodology of the science of history works based on the main categories such as historical evidence, historical source, historical time and historical breadth. Based on this, historical research is carried out based on the methods of systematic approach, comparative analysis and interdisciplinary approach in the study of history. Researches based on these methods are highly effective and historical truth is revealed.

In the study of historical works written before him, Beruni carried out the analysis of sources strictly using the critical method. He stated that the best way to falsify the past historical development of mankind, to clean history from fabrications is to use the source based on the verification of specific sources to determine whether they are fake or real, "by comparing [things] with the mind, it is not possible to know those reports. This can only be known by following the "people of the book" and various religious figures, people of various professions and beliefs who follow these [beliefs], always basing their concepts" [Beruniy, 1968; 40].

Before Beruni, only in 710, the Chinese historian Liu Zhizi critically analyzed the historical works written in China before him in his "Introduction to History". But his analysis was in a narrow scope, and it was not a multi-disciplinary analysis related to several peoples and countries like Berunidek's analysis. In historical research, research on the basis of "book people", i.e. the study of the works of researchers and religious beliefs, i.e., the comparison of secular and divine sources, is the main condition for uncovering the historical truth. The scientist offers to carefully study the worldview of each religious belief.

Why does the scientist emphasize the study of religious belief here? Because in ancient and medieval times, historical events were reflected in sacred books and literature related to religious beliefs. The researcher considered it acceptable to put a person of that faith and not himself as the subject of the study. At the same time, he suggested to study the opinion of scholars related to that religious faith. In the Middle Ages, ministers of religious faith were also engaged in writing past history.

Beruniy shows a worthy place to the method of comparison, which is one of the most important methods of historical research, and writes that "even if we try hard and suffer a lot, we cannot achieve the goal in any other way." In this opinion, he shows that historical truth can be revealed on the basis of comparative analysis of sources in scientific research. This fact was later put forward in the works of European scientists of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Beruni briefly mentions the methods he used to write the work: "... gathering [all] my strength, using [any] opportunity, I decided to describe those things as far as I learned by hearing, sometimes seeing and comparing" [Beruni, 1968; 40].

²AbuRayhonBeruniy. Qadimgixalqlardanqolganyodgorliklar.Tanlanganasarlar. TomI. Toshkent: Fan. 1968. –B. 14.

Even now, the method of oral history is relevant in historical research. Until now, the oral history method has been an unreliable method for researchers. But in the last years of the 20th century and today, this method began to take its place. It can be seen that the scientist made good use of oral history, the method of studying and comparing evidence from sources.

To write the work, the scientist prepared on the basis of "hearing" - oral history, that is, receiving information from his contemporaries, "comparing" and "seeing" (calculating and checking the dates of the past history of human development based on the sciences of astronomy and mathematics), as well as empirical methods. He did not allow subjectivity and superficiality in the implementation of historical research without retreating from scientificity and objectivity.

At the beginning of the work, Beruni touches on the methodological problems of the science of history. Reflecting on the methodological bases of conducting research in the science of history, he clarifies the specific aspects of historical research. For the first time in the history of world history methodology, the scientist conducted methodological research and analysis of historical works dedicated to the past development of mankind. European historical methodology began to fully deal with this problem only from the 19th century. In particular, Karl Jaspers [2001:527], A. Toynbee [2001: 640], M. Block [1986:256], K. Popper [1993:188], N. Berdyaev and other scientists began to deal with these issues.

The scientist paid attention to the main principles of ensuring the historical-scientific perfection of the historical work and clarified the first elements of historical knowledge. The society made a comprehensive historical-scientific analysis of the most important aspects of the formation of human historical consciousness.

As a historical scientist, Beruni says that the historical genetic method, which is a special historical method of the current historical methodology, should be used to study history from the beginning of mankind.

The historical genetic method is directed to the analysis of the historical development of mankind, aimed at determining its cause and effect, connections and stages. The historical genetic (retrospective) method is characterized by systematic access to the past in order to determine the causes of some historical evidence, events, and phenomena. The historical genetic (retrospective) method helps to determine the laws and cause-effect relationships of the development of a historical event (phenomenon, structures). The teacher recommended the use of this method in the study of history as a methodology of history.

In the work, the scientist clarifies the existence of different conflicting opinions in different nations about the beginning of the historical development of mankind and reveals the essence of these disagreements: The naturalness of the different interpretations of the past historical development of mankind, nations and states in the historical works of different nations has been scientifically substantiated on the basis of the historical genetic method. The Iranians and fire worshipers claimed that the life of the universe is twelve thousand years according to the number of constellations and moons. Zarathustra, the founder of their shari'a, claimed that three thousand years passed from the beginning of the universe to the time it appeared.

Then he [found] a defect that is always found in years in terms of quarter days, and he took upon himself the calculation until the quarters were added and the years were correct" [Beruniy, 1968: 15]. Beruni's research methods and approach to scientific research have not lost their value even in the following centuries, until now. The methodology and methods used in the scientist's historical

researches, his encyclopedic scientist and methodology of sciences serve as another proof that he is a great thinker. The methods used by Beruni in historical research serve as an example for scientists of the next and current generation.

Discussion

The main principles of historical methodology in Beruni's views

According to the principles of historical methodology, it is necessary to describe the past historical development as a scientific problem on the basis of scientific discussion, research-analysis and scientific conclusions. "The People of the Book, the Jews, the Christians, the Fire-worshippers, and all these classes, differ so much as to the beginning of mankind and its beginning of history, that there cannot be such a diversity of histories." Beruni clarifies this problem by researching and comparing evidence from different sources to find a solution.

"Everything that is known about the beginning of creation and the state of the past ages is mixed with fictions and legends, because these things are so far away, and so much time has passed between us and them, that anyone who wants to pay attention to this is unable to remember and define those events" [Beruniy, 1968: 14], the scientist pointed out the purification or separation of history from myths and fiction, showed that it is impossible to restore the true history with the help of myths and fairy tales, and emphasizes that it is necessary to use accurate sources in the study of history. The problem of the use of sources remains relevant even in the methodology of modern history.

The historian does not just recognize it as his own concept, but sees the actual existence in the content of history. Otherwise, the source may cease to be the object of emotional reception of the historian. It would not be possible for such an entity to know reality based on sources alone. The purpose of historical research is to know a certain historical reality based on the relevant source. If a historical object is capable of knowing another object, it becomes a source. Hence, any existing known object can be a historical source for knowing another object. Any historical source can be called historical evidence. But the historian uses such evidence as a source to learn about other evidence.

But before using any source is studied from a critical point of view. Abu Rayhan Beruni certainly raised the problem of critical study of the source in scientific research conducted in the science of history. It recommends a careful and critical study of the evidence in the source and argues that it is possible to find a solution to the problem posed by conducting research through reliable evidence from the source. It suggests that information (messages) presented in books or studies can only be accepted if it is based on circumstantial evidence. I. In his preface to this work, Abdullaev states: "he approaches the sources from a critical point of view, boldly and fearlessly criticizes the historical works of his predecessors" [Beruniy, 1968: 15].

The goal of the scientist to objectively research the past history has not lost its importance. Philosopher and scientist O. who studied Beruni's historical work. Fayzullaev writes about this: "Knowledge of historical events consists of a certain form of the unity of historicity and rationality held by Beruniy: starting with the most famous and closest narratives to our time, we get closer to the object and correct it along the way" [Beruniy, 1968: 22]. Beruni used the methods and principles that are widely used in historical methodology to end the confusion in the historical works created about the historical development of the past. The past demanded that every event in history be explained on the basis of only one reliable source.

The scientist gives three reasons for the difficulty of writing this work: "I found that this work is difficult [to reach] and [the source] to be obtained is far away, and it does not obey the one who wants to put it among the clear sciences that leave no doubt in the heart of a person who knows it well." Beruni emphasizes the need to turn to the past to solve the problem. Indeed, for history, the scientist feels that it is difficult to solve the problem posed by the long past between the object of research and the researcher himself.

When we analyze the reasons given above, we see that Abu Rayhan Beruni understood that this work can be included in the history science and writing a historical work can be done on the basis of strictly following the principles of studying history and relying only on the sources. The scientist knew the need to search for a source from past history to write such a work. So, Abu Rayhan Beruni was well aware of the methodological problems of the science of history and tried to find a solution to these problems in his work. The scientist addresses the problem of methods and shows the historical methods he needs to solve the given problem.

In the introduction to the work, the scientist considers the following sources to be the most important in order to reveal the historical truth and ensure the scientific value of the work: "Starting to write the work [introduction], I say that the most important means of conveying what is asked of me is the knowledge of the narratives of ancient nations, the messages of past generations." [Beruni, 1968: 40]. It is known that the samples of folk art play an important role as a source in uncovering the historical truth. Elements of historical consciousness lie in its bosom. For this reason mythology has always been used as oral history.

Abu Rayhan Beruni says about the role of customs and traditions in the life of peoples: "Because most of these are the descendants of those nations and their customs and rules" [Beruni, 1968: 40].

Another tool is the study of messages from the past (source information). In addition, the scientist comments on the sources: In particular, he states that most of these sources are from the generations of nations and their "rituals and rules" [Beruniy, 1968: 40-41]. pays serious attention to the study of customs, traditions, paintings and customs of the nation - i.e. ethnography.

Abu Rayhan Beruni believes that it is not enough to "give evidence from mental [things]" in the knowledge of past history, in researching the given problem. In our opinion, here the scientist explains that it is not enough to rely only on dry evidence from past sources. Also, it shows that "it is impossible to fully solve the task set by comparison with the observed [things]. According to Abu Rayhan Beruni, it is appropriate to follow the "people of the book" and various religious figures, the people of various professions and beliefs who follow these [beliefs], and to implement their concepts³ as a basis.

In the explanation of the terms of Abu Rayhan Beruni's work, "people of the book" refers to Jews, Christians and Zoroastrians. In our opinion, this refers to people who are engaged in science.

In this sentence, the scientist urges to base the works of the authors of the historical works of the past, the works belonging to the representatives of the religious beliefs that have established their complete dominance in the spiritual and cultural sphere, and the concepts in them. What did the scientist mean by establishing the concepts of religious beliefs? It is known that religious beliefs and professions contain concepts and ideas formed about the past historical development of mankind.

³AbuRayhonBeruniy. Qadimgixalqlardanqolgan yodgorliklar.Tanlanganasarlar. TomI. Toshkent: Fan. 1968. –B. 40.

The scientist believes that this concept - imagination plays an important role in revealing the historical truth. Because the concepts and ideas presented in religious beliefs and practices have been researched and analyzed several times by scientists, there is no doubt that they contain historical truth particles. Therefore, it shows to take them as a basis. The scientist reinforces this opinion with the following words: here he strictly instructed to rely on only one way or method - the most tested way of knowing - the method and methodology of scientific knowledge in researching and analyzing a certain field.

He did not doubt that this path was very difficult, but that it was impossible to reach the truth in any other way. "What I have said is the best way to the true goal and the most powerful aid to wash away the doubts that stain it. Even if we try hard and suffer a lot, we cannot achieve the goal in any other way" [Beruniy, 1968: 40]. In these lines, the scientist explains the goal of revealing the historical truth by showing black as black and white as white, following the principle of objectivity and relying on sources in the research and analysis of history.

Results

History and mythology in the work.

The scientist paid special attention to the use of mythological sources, which are one of the important sources in the study of past history. Beruni shows the need for a critical analysis of the mythological source. The study showed that it is appropriate to study the. Beruni: an interdisciplinary approach to the study of history

By the time of Abu Rayhan Beruni, a lot of works devoted to the past historical development of humanity, the nation, and various spheres of people's life were collected. Beruni understood very well that it takes a lot of effort and time to research and analyze them. It comes to the opinion that one researcher cannot know all the news related to a nation or people and that one person's lifetime is not enough to study a large number of sources. In his opinion, "human life is not enough to find out [all] messages [relevant] to one of the peoples, how can it be enough to know the messages [about] all nations?"

Narratives in the research of the historical problem, and to distinguish among them the narratives recognized by the majority. Analyzing these narrations in chronological order, analyzing them and correcting some of them, he decided to accept the rest as they are: . We will accept [some of them] from their leaders and fix what can be fixed, and leave others as they are," he thinks, referring to the narrations he has researched. The sentence "We will correct the correctable" refers to the critical study of sources and the correction of incorrect information by comparison with other sources.

This is impossible!" The scientist emphasizes that the one-year activity of one researcher is not enough to study history. For this reason, the scientist admits that it is impossible to completely reconstruct and know the past history of mankind.

In the study of the past history of humanity, Beruni promotes the idea of cooperation of history with other disciplines and uses it effectively in writing his work in this field. Because a huge stock of knowledge has been accumulated in all areas of the past development of mankind. In order to use this reserve, it is necessary to ensure the cooperation of representatives of various disciplines is still preserved today. Huge materials in science in the 20th century. However, the tradition of individual research of these materials by various researchers is preserved. Such a study is biased and does not give the expected result of the researcher. In the 30s of the 20th century, Lucien Fèvre, a major representative of historical methodology, affirmed as follows: "After all, today everyone settles where

it suits him, and someone chooses a more, someone less suitable, and surrounds his place with a wall based on his personal fantasy from the first material that comes to hand" [Fèvre, 1991: 51].

In describing the past historical development of humanity, Beruni showed the best way to falsify it, to clean history from fabrications: "It is not possible to know those messages by comparing them with mental [things]. This can only be known by following the "people of the book" and various religious figures, people of various professions and beliefs who follow these [beliefs], always basing their concepts" [Beruniy, 1968:40].

In historical research, research based on the study of "book people", that is, the works of researchers and religious beliefs, that is, on the basis of comparing secular and divine sources, is the main condition for uncovering the historical truth. The researcher considered it acceptable to put a person of that faith and not himself as the subject of the study. At the same time, he suggested to study the opinion of scholars related to that religious faith.

One of the main factors of the high level of historical thinking of the great scholar Abu Raykhan Beruni is that it is appropriate to justify it with his mastery of exact and natural sciences at a high level. The following opinion of the philosopher R. J. Collingwood, one of the famous representatives of historical methodology, who lived in the first half of the 20th century, is noteworthy: "If someone, let's say he is a mathematician, writes $2 \times 2 = 4$, and someone, let's say he is a historian - wants to know what the mathematician who left this note on the paper thought, if he is not sufficiently mathematical, he cannot know what the mathematician who wrote the idea that $2 \times 2 = 4$ was thinking" [R.J. Collingwood R.J. 1986: 386]. This opinion of Collingwood indicates that Beruni's tary thinking was at a high level.

Summary

This work of Beruni serves as a unique example of historical science and methodology. Asr is a comprehensive and excellent scientific study for researchers of historical methodology of historical methodology in the research and analysis of sources and literature in historical research. In the work, the views of the scientist on the methodology of history and methodological research are short and clearly understandable to everyone, and are distinguished by their scientific depth and richness of content. We tried to analyze only the introductory part of the work in the direction of historical methodology.

The work "Monuments left by ancient peoples" is a unique master work created in the world on the methodology of history, and the author of this work is a true teacher of scientists in this field. Before Beruni, a work in the field of historical methodology, which gave full answers to deep and methodological questions, had not been written in the science of world history. This work is a masterpiece in the field of historical methodology and serves as a scientific-theoretical and practical methodological guide for researchers of historical methodology. The scientist paid attention to all the problems of historical methodology. For this reason, the writer uses different methods in writing the work. In one small article, it is impossible to analyze and research Beruni's work "Relics of Ancient Nations" from the point of view of historical methodology. This work has a lot of scientific and theoretical information in the areas of source studies methodology, special methods of historical methodology. The solution to a number of methodological problems that are currently scientifically and theoretically relevant in the science of history can be found in this work. This requires the implementation of several dozen research works to explore the thoughts and ideas of the scientist that represent the essence of the methodology of history.

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