



A BRIEF HISTORICAL-GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NUROTA MOUNTAIN RANGE

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ANNOTATION

This article contains information about the geographical structure, relief and borders of the Nurota oasis, and it is based on the fact that the flora and fauna of this area created conditions that could be a place for ancient people.

KEYWORDS. North Nurota Mountains, South Nurota Mountains, Koytash, Zargartog, Katta Fozilman, Karchigai, Okchopsoy, Koshrobot.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqolada Nurota vohasining geografik tuzilishi, relyefi va chegaralari haqidagi ma'lumotlar joy olgan bo'lib, ushbu hududdagi flora va fauna dunyosi qadimgi odamlar uchun makon bo'la oladigan darajadagi shart-sharoitni yuzaga keltirganligi asoslangan.

Аннотация. В данной статье содержится информация о географическом строении, рельефе и границах Нуратинского оазиса, и она основана на том, что флора и фауна этой местности создали условия, которые могли быть местом проживания древних людей.

Kalit so'zlar. Shimoliy Nurota tog'lari, Janubiy Nurota tog'lari, Qo'ytosh, Zargartog', Katta Fozilmon, Qarchig'ay, Oqchopsoy, Qo'shrabot.

Ключевые слова. Северные Нуратинские горы, Южные Нуратинские горы, Койташ, Заргартог, Катта Фозильман, Карчигай, Окчопсой, Кошработ.

Historically, the Nurota oasis is adjacent to the northwestern branch of the Turkestan ridge and is located in today's Navoi, Samarkand and Jizzakh regions [1, 45; 2.78]. In the southeast, the Ilonotti mountain pass on the Sangzor river separates the Nurota mountains from the Molguzar ridge [3, 344-345]. It is bordered by the Zarafshan bog from the south and the Kyzylkum desert from the north. The Nurota mountains consist of two parallel ridges. The northern ridge is called the Nurota Mountains, more precisely, the Northern Nurota Mountains, and the southern one is called the Southern Nurota Mountains. The Koytash Mountains are located in the southeastern part of the Northern Nurota Mountains [3, 345-346]. For ancient people, both

mountain ranges created conditions for leather-breeding and hunting, and later cattle-breeding and partly for agriculture along the springs and mountain ridges. The location of the mountains above the sea level is crucial for water supply in the summer season. In particular, the Koytash Mountains go from the Sovurbel Pass in the northwest to the Sangzor River in the southeast [4, 53]. The length is 70 km, the average height is 1260 meters. The central part of the Northern Nurota ridge is relatively high, the average height is 1750 meters. The highest place (Zargartog) is 2169 meters. There are peaks like Katta Fozilman (2134 meters), Karchigai (2105 meters) in this part.



The northwestern part of the Northern Nurota Mountains is not very high, the average height is 900-1100 meters. For this reason, the share of agriculture in the economy of the inhabitants of this region is relatively small. For example, the Southern Nurota Mountains are cut by several meridional valleys; It consists of Gubdintog, Karaqitog, and Oktog, stretching from the southeast to the northwest [3, 345]. Karatog, northwest of Aktog, also belongs to the southern Nurota mountains. These mountains are separated from each other by Koshrobot, Koytash and Nurota. The Nurota Mountains extend 180 km to the north-west. The average height is 1000-1500 meters. It is composed of Paleozoic limestone, sandstone and shale, metamorphic rocks. There is a lot of loose rock among them. Neogene and Quaternary deposits are also distributed in the lower parts of the southern ridges and in botiks [4, 75]. Tectonically, the ridges have a megaclicinal structure, were formed during the Hercynian fold and were raised to their current height as a result of new tectonic movements.

Due to the fact that the Nurota oasis is located between the Northern and Southern mountains, known as the white mountain and the black mountain in the vernacular, and that these mountain ranges extend over relatively large areas, many rivers and streams flow from the Nurota mountains (Osmonsoy, Kulbasoy, Uchmasoy, Majrumsoy, Ukhumsoy, Sentabsoy, Tusunsoy, Oktepasoy, Koksaroysoy, Okchopsoy, etc.) begins [3, 346]. Due to their low water consumption, when they reach the plains, they dry up or are used for irrigation. Flood events also occur in them in the spring [5, 56-57]. By the early and late middle ages, artificial dams and dams were built from the waste water formed in the mountain ranges (Khonbandi in the 10th century and Abdullahkhan dam in the 16th century).

The flora and fauna of the oasis are also peaty, and in the Nurota mountains, mainly gray soils, brown gray soils are distributed at 1600-1700 meters altitude. Ephemera and ephemeroids grow in the foothills and up to 1600 meters altitude [6, 14]. Among the bushes and trees there are almonds, walnuts, sorghum, hawthorn and others. In the higher part, there are birch groves. Animals include wolves, foxes, ibex, hares, mountain goats, badgers, snakes, partridges, bullfrogs, and others.

The favorable conditions for living in the oasis require archeological research to suggest that it was also

the place where the oldest people lived. During 2018-2022, professors of the Department of Archeology of Samarkand State University and the team of researchers led by O. Ergashev carried out archaeological observation and excavation work in Nurota mountain massifs. During these years, the search results around the mountain belts and springs made it possible to obtain about 100 primitive weapons of the Stone Age and fragments of processed stone weapon raw materials [7, 1-45]. The details of the captured artifacts indicate that the Nurota oasis was one of the ancient places of mankind, and it is necessary to carry out in-depth research in the area.

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