



# HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE ECOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE KHIVA KHANATE

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## ANNOTATION

*The article analyzes the issues of historiography of the ecological history of the Khiva Khanate. Sources on the history of the Khiva Khanate of the 17th-19th centuries contain historical and geographical information about cities, rivers and canals, lakes, arable lands, gardens, sand dunes of the region.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Khiva, khanate, nature, historical works, expedition, canal, agriculture, gardening.*

## INTRODUCTION

The climate of the three-century-old Khiva khanate, surrounded by deserts and sands, and other natural and geographical factors made an enormous impact on the formation of the economic system in the region, the process of urbanization. Indeed, in the development of cities, their location in the oases, water supply, protection from external threats have played an important role in ensuring life expectancy. In past centuries, it was these problems, particularly the problem of water shortages that disrupted citylife in Kat and Old Urgench which had been the capital for many years, and caused them to become desolate.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This article examines the historical logic and historical-geographical data of the Khiva khanate on the basis of modern services of historical science, issues of historiography in the historical context of the environment.

## ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In the historical works of the Khiva khanate historical and geographical information was written about the cities, rivers and canals, lakes and wells, arable lands and sand dunes in the region. In particular, the historical works of Abulgazihan, Munis, Ogahi and Bayani clearly describe the events, leaving details regarding the cities, rivers and lakes and others encountered along the way when describing the khan's travels.

Abulgazihan's work "Shajarayi Turk" also contains significant information about the agriculture, irrigation, trade, tax affairs, administrative structure

of Khorezm. The book also contains valuable information about the fact that in the time of himself and his son Anushakhan, special attention was paid to horticulture and grain growing in the country's agriculture, wheat was planted from Mizdahkan fortress to Kuygun.

In his work, Munis talks about the march of Khiva khan Muhammad Rahimkhan to the New Fortress, and also about the sands as well as the Aral Sea.

Issues such as digging new canals, developing new lands, and expanding irrigation were one of the main factors in determining the economic life and political position of the khanate. Ya. Gulyamov noted that "in a country like Khorezm, where the main prosperity is related to irrigating agriculture, caring for irrigation was a state affair" [3. 13]. In the Khiva khanate, canals with large irrigation facilities and side ditches were cleaned in early spring by hashar. The villagers bought and sacrificed wheat, birch, white mare, ram, and goat for a new canal ritual that was cleaned or removed from the Amudarya in order to provide food for the villagers [2. 238-239].

Academician V.V. Bartold points out that historical works written in Khorezm in the XIX century provided a lot of information on irrigation. The scientist's "Turkestan v epokhu Mongolskogo nashestviya", "K voprosu o vpadaniye Amudar'i v Kaspiyskoye more", "Svedeniya ob Aralskom more i nizovyakh Amudari s drevneyshikh vremen do XVII veka", "Dorozhnik XIV veka ot Bistama do Kunya-Urgench", "K istorii Khorezma v XVI veka", "K istorii oroshcheniya Turkestana", "Novyye istochniki po istorii Khorezma", "O rukopisi Mulla Babadzhan



“Tarikhi Khorazm shakhiy” and “Turkestan v epokhu Mongolskogo nashestviya”, many of his works include information on the history of Khorezm.

Valuable and noteworthy information about the history of Khiva khanate is also covered in the diaries of foreign tourists and researchers. Anthony Jenkinson, an English merchant who came to Khiva in 1558 under the label of the Russian tsar, wrote in his diaries adequate information reflecting the socio-economic processes of Khorezm in the middle of the 16th century. In particular, he said, “The water used by the whole country is taken from the Oxus River through canals. That is why its water has not flowed into the Caspian Sea as before.”

The Khiva khanate was visited in 1740-1741 by Lieutenant Gladyshev, an officer of the Orenburg cavalry regiment, and Muravin, a surveyor. As their ethnographic observations, various interesting data on the khanate were collected [5]. During the expedition, they created an administrative-geographical map of the Khiva fortress and the khanate.

Materials about Khiva and the khanate were again colorful in the 1840s. In particular, in 1840 on the pages of the magazine “Отечественные записки” was published an article by G. Helmersen “Khiva is now in its own state.” As part of the expedition to Khiva in 1841, the topographer Aitov took many pictures in the Khiva khanate. These paintings were included in a map depicting Khorezmian landscapes made in Berlin in 1845.

Also significant historical data were written by Lieutenant Colonel G.I Danilevsky, who came to Khiva in 1842 with embassy relations. [6] The naturalist F.I. Baziner, who was part of his caravan, gives information about Khorezm plants and their species.

The program, prepared in 1873 by the scientific secretary of the Russian Geographical Society, orientalist P.I. Lerkh, also identified the expansion or contraction of the Amudarya River and its tributaries.

Orientalist A.L. Kun collected a lot of interesting information about the history of ancient fortresses in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya during his travels from Khiva to Kuhna Urgench and Kungrad.

One of the participants of the Khiva expedition, military geographer P.F. Kostenko, published his observations in such articles as “From Khiva to Kazalinsk”, “Khiva in 1873”, “Khiva Khanate in agricultural relations.” We see a rich and unique historical processes in the work of M.I. Ivanin “Khiva and the Amudarya River.”

Another participant of the Khiva march, writer and artist N.N. Karazin, described the nature of Khiva, the architecture of the city and the way of

life of the population. The album “Khiva March” was published in Berlin in 1874.

Journalist A., who took part in the occupation of the city, “Khiva is a beautiful city, - Mc Gahan said, - From the side we entered, it was impossible to notice all its beauty as the gardens were blocked. Even the most spectacular point here, the huge embossed tower, could not be clearly seen until we reached it through the thick trees and houses.” [7]

The social changes that took place in the khanates of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khiva in the early twentieth century were reflected in a number of studies. S.K. Kondrashov dedicated his work “Орошаемое хозяйство и водопользование Хивинского оазиса” to the system of artificial irrigation, which reflects the traditional agricultural culture. Khanate cotton growing is reflected in VI Masalsky's book “Cotton business in Central Asia (Turkestan, Transcaucasian region, Bukhara and Khiva) and the future of the ego.”

## CONCLUSION

In the historical works of the Khiva khanate in the XVII-XIX centuries, historical and geographical information was written about the cities, rivers and canals, lakes and wells, arable lands and sand dunes in the region. Valuable and noteworthy information about the history of Khorezm is also covered in the diaries of foreign tourists and researchers.

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