

Irrigation of Khiva khanate (XVII - XIX centuries).

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Annotation: The article discusses the construction of waterworks and irrigation networks in agriculture of Khiva khanate, the importance of irrigated agriculture.

Keywords: Shohobod canal, Yormish canal, Mangitarna canal, Suvonli canal, Omonquli canal, Kangli canal, Nukus canal, Hizr Eli Kungrad, Uyghur and Uyshun canals

1. INTRODUCTION

In the Khiva khanate, as in the whole of Central Asia, it was necessary to bring water to these lands in order to develop new lands and turn them into arable lands.

In the agriculture of Khiva khanate it was considered difficult to irrigate the land. In the khanate the lands were irrigated in two ways, i.e. with or without furrows. On non-irrigated lands, water was discharged from the rivers through ditches, and the ditches flowed down the slope of the land. To irrigate the land with a hoe, a large hook was set up in the river, which was not driven by the force of the flow of water, but by a horse or an ox, while the smaller hoes were driven by the people themselves.

From this it can be seen that in Khiva khanate agriculture based on artificial irrigation which was widespread.

The relative political unity of the Khiva khanate and some economic and cultural rise dates back to the second half of the seventeenth century.

The historical events that took place in the khanate, the development of new lands and the development of irrigation are covered in the rich chronicles of Khiva. These chronicles were written by Shermuhammad Munis (1778-1829), son of Avazbiy, who wrote under the pseudonym "Munis", Muhammad Rizo Mirab, son of Ernazarbek, who wrote under the pseudonym "Ogahiy" (1809-1872), and Muhammad Yusuf, son of Bobojonbek, who wrote under the pseudonym "Bayoniy" (1859-1923), such as writers.

Munis and Ogahiy were poets and official historians of the Khiva palace, who from generation to generation also received the title of chief mirab of the palace. It was the task of these high-ranking officials to organize the main part of the main canals in the khanate, to build bridges, and to lead such important works.

In a country whose main prosperity, like that of the Khiva khanate, was associated with irrigated agriculture, it was the duty of the state to take care of irrigation.

Along with reforming the administration of the Abulgazi state, the khan of Khiva introduced extensive irrigation measures and accelerated the settlement of Uzbeks on irrigated lands.

2. MAIN PART

During the reign of Anushakhan (1663-1686) two large canals were built in South Khorezm, such as Shohabad and Yormish. According to Munis, the construction of the Yormish Canal was caused by the fact that the city of Kat on the right bank was left without water during the reign of Anushakhan. So, taking into account the water needs of the townspeople, he ordered the excavation of the Yormish Canal from the left bank and built the Qiyat fortress there, while the inhabitants of the old Qat moved to the new Qiyat.

The Yormish canal was dug 15 km east of Urgench from the Amudarya, and it flowed parallel to the river. The length of the canal is 96 km, the average width is 17.5 m, and the depth of the starting part is 2 m. It ended on the Akkul border, 10.5 km north of Ilyali.

The second canal, Shohobod (Shovot in the vernacular), is the largest canal in Khorezm, beginning at the mouth of the ancient Dovdon River, which flows 30 km into the old canal. The length of the Shohobod canal is 143 km, the average width is 30 m, the average depth is 3.5 m. The Shohobod canal was built in 1681 and was completed 6-7 km west of Khanka, Urgench, Shohobod, Toshovuz and Ilyali.

Another irrigation facility is the Mangitarna Canal, which runs through the Amudarya 12-13 km below Gurlan and flows 18 km northwest of the village of Mangit. It is difficult to determine the period in which it was built. In the Khiva chronicles it is known as "Father's Channel". From the name itself it appears that this canal was dug by a father of the Khiva khanates. The canal, built by Odina Muhammad's father during the Araghan period, is named after the man who dug it. So, as a result of the great efforts made by Abulgazi and Anushakhan in the field of irrigation, the lands around the river were supplied with water.

At the end of the 17th century, as in South Khorezm, there was a large-scale development of the Aral Sea and the gradual settlement of Uzbeks, and later Karakalpaks, on natural lands and along the artificial canal.

The fact that there were several branches of the delta and that their flow varied frequently did not necessitate the construction of a main canal here, as the presence of many large and small dams in the networks indicates a great

deal of work in land drainage and network management. However, we can see that more important artificial canals like Eshim (Name on the map) have been built.

By the time of Muhammad Rahim Khan, the khan had begun to fortify the capital and expand irrigated areas, which was necessary to relocate Turkmen tribes to the center, as well as to reward military officials.

One of the major irrigation works in 1815 was the construction of the Kilich Niyazboy canal. To the left of this canal is Beshuyli, and to the right is Gurlan, Nukus. The Uyghur and Polvonbek canals are separated.

The Niyazboy Canal was built specifically to irrigate the arid lands along the right bank of the river. Thus, the irrigated lands of South Khorezm have been significantly expanded. A fortress was built in the old tradition 66 km away from the canal. Both the canal and the fortress were named after one of Muhammad Rahimkhan's famous officials, Kilich Niyazboy.

G.I. Danilevsky mentions that there was a Karakoz canal flowing between the Kilich Niyazboy canal and the Mangit arna to the north-west of Buldumsoz. The tributary of the Mangit Arna Canal flows 24 km below the Karakoz Canal and 8 km above the city of Mangit. The length of the canal was 60 miles. At the bottom of the canal, the Yangiyop Canal separates from this canal and flows south-west, covering 33 miles of land and sinking into the sands. The Yangiyop Canal was built in 1808 by Davlat Karakoz (Kilich Niyazbi).

In 1814, by the order of Muhammad Rahimkhan, the foothills of the Shohabad canal were thoroughly cleaned, and in 1815, the Dashovuz fortress was built there.

In 1810, Muhammad Rahimkhan ordered the transfer of water from the foothills of the Yangiariq canal to the area of Oqmachit (20 km south-east of Khiva) and the improvement of these areas.

In the late twenties, two large irrigation constructions were carried out, in 1828 the new head of Polvonyop, Toshako, was built, and in 1831 a canal was laid to the Old Urgench region.

Thus, by 1855, irrigation work on the left bank of the upper delta, including a large area of Khanabad, had been completed.

In conclusion, it can be said that in the Khiva oasis, as in the whole of Central Asia, in order to develop new lands and turn them into arable lands, it was necessary to bring water to these lands. Bringing water to new lands was a difficult task, even for an entire community, let alone individual farms. Large canals and irrigation facilities were built as a result of several communities working together.

3. CONCLUSION

Naturally, there was a need to spend a lot of money and effort to constantly repair waterworks and build new ones, to organize the construction of large waterworks. This could only be done with the help of the state. Therefore, the more stable the state power in the Khiva khanate, the more

extensive the construction of waterworks and the more land used.

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