

## **ABOUT SALT MINES IN THE TERRITORY OF BUKHARA, KHIVA, KOKAN KHANATES IN XVI-XIX CENTURIES.**

Ph.D. Turayeva Sayyora Rustambayevna.

Public safety of the Republic of Uzbekistan

University of Social and Humanities professor of the department,

Email: Sayyora\_tura@mail.ru

+998-94-619-85-79.

### **Annotation:**

In this article, the salt deposits and mining methods, their trade and use in the household, which provided the residents with table salt in Bukhara, Khiva, Kokand khanates, were analyzed. The historical locations of the famous salt mines of Turkestan in the 16th-19th centuries are shown.

**Key words:** Salt mine, Bukhara khanate, Khiva khanate, Kokan khanate, Kesh salt, Sultan Sanjar Lake, Bashkhud, salt stones, pink salt.

## **XVI- XIX АСРЛАРДА БУХОРО, ХИВА, ҚЎҚОН ХОНЛИКЛАРИНИНГ ХУДУДИДАГИ ТУЗ КОНЛАРИ ҲАҚИДА.**

### **Аннотация:**

Ушбу мақолада Бухоро, Хива, Қўқон хонлигидаги маҳаллаи аҳолини ош тузи билан таъминлаган туз конлари ва қазиб олиш усуллари, савдоси ва ҳужаликда ишлатилиши таҳлил этилган. Туркистоннинг XVI- XIX асрлардаги машҳур туз конларининг тарихий манзиллари кўрсатилган.

**Калит сўзлар:** Туз кони, Бухоро хонлиги, Хива хонлиги, Қўқон хонлиги, Кеш тузи, Султон Санжар кўли, башхуд, туз тошлари, пушти туз.

## **О СОЛЯНЫХ КОПЯХ НА ТЕРРИТОРИИ БУХАРСКОГО, ХИВИНСКОГО, КОКАНСКОГО ХАНСТВ В XVI-XIX ВЕКАХ.**

### **Аннотация:**

В данной статье проанализированы соляные месторождения и способы добычи, торговли и использования в хозяйстве, которые обеспечивали местных жителей Бухары, Хивы, Коканского ханства поваренной солью. Показаны исторические места расположения знаменитых соляных копей Туркестана в XVI-XIX веках.

**Ключевые слова:** Соляная шахта, Бухарское ханство, Хивинское ханство, Коканское ханство, Кешская соль, озеро Султан Санджар, башхуд, соляные камни, розовая соль.

In nature, salts are found in lakes, seas, and oceans as rock crystals. Often, after the water bodies dry up, deposits of table salt and other salts appear in those places. Salt mine is the most popular product of chemical mines. In 1943-48, many salt deposits in Central Asia were discovered by Uzbek chemists S.M. It was studied by a scientific expedition led by Muqimov (1899-1956) [1]. The hydrochemical composition of mineral, saline solutions, formation laws of saline layers of salt water basins of "Dengizkol" (Bukhara), "Tuzkon" (Jizzakh), "Shorkon" (Fergana), "Khojakon" (Surkhondaryo) were analyzed. As a result of the experiments, it was recommended to use salt mines in practice, to use salt solutions and balchikdar at the bottom of water bodies for treatments in local hospitals. Salts are very important in nature and technology. Salts are one of the important components of the animal and plant organism. Table salt has been used in food since ancient times. Various salts are also used in medicine.

Salts are widely used in metallurgy, glass, textile, mining, lacquer industries, agriculture and other industries. So, where and how was this useful mineral mined in the khanates of Turkestan in the 16th-19th centuries?

As a result of research, it became known that table salt ore was mined in several places in the regions of Bukhara, Khiva, Kokand Khanate. It is known from the sources that most of the salt mines are located near the lake and that the inhabitants can get as much as they want from the open field salt mine, some of the salt mines of some cave-like or surrounded areas are owned by the residents of some neighborhoods near this place and they are engaged in salt trade. Small pieces of pink salt brought from the eastern side of the Guzor mountains in the territory of the Bukhara Khanate to the city of Guzor, about 65 km away, have been famous in the area since ancient times. Here, at a distance of about 20 km, salt is mined mainly in three places - Laylikon, Beshbulok mine, Kari or Kokhna mine. Nature itself helped to find rich deposits of rock salt in these places. For a long time, the people planted barley and alfalfa seeds at the foot of Laili mountain. The water of the mountain stream flowing down from the mountains flowed into them. One day, a part of the Laili Mountains fell into their fields, and flames shot out of the crack. After the flame died down, a row of salt flakes was visible in its place. Since then, salt has been mined from the mountain and many people have been engaged in this work. Local residents called this salt "bashkhurd". They took the salt to Karshi. Salt was taken from here to Bukhara, Karmana, Samarkand and Tashkent. There, this mineral is known as Samarkand salt [2].

The famous salt mines were located in the Nurtoq Mountains, at the exit of the Vakhsh River. Hazrat Imam Mountain, a salt mine near Kolob provided salt to the inhabitants of Kolob, Boljuvan and even Badakhshan. Near the city of Khoja-Sarti there were very good salt mines. The residents of Shahartuz in the Qubodiyon Valley steamed the salt from the mines in the sun

and crushed the collected rock salt. They used salt mined from the village of Beshkent. Because it is light brown, oily, and has a more bitter salty taste, they squeezed out the juice before eating [3].

In the Kafirnihan Valley, 10 km from Aqmasjid, there was a Khojainak salt water stream in the Shuroyan gorge. The locals knew how to extract salt from the salt water here. It is a very good, reddish salt, and people from all neighborhoods, including Hisar, came to get it. In addition to consumer salt, some types of industrial salt were mined in the territories of the Bukhara Khanate. For example, gray salt was of poor quality and was only suitable for the needs of the leather crafts industry[4].

There was a large salt mine in the Zinku tributary, which starts from the Aloy valley on the left bank of the river and ends opposite the riverbed, in Karategin, in the Langarshah mountains. This mine was called the Luchat Mine, and the salt in its upper part was red in color and of average quality, while the salt in the lower part was white and considered good salt.[5]

Salt was also mined in Darvaz-Surhab and Mindav. In Pamir, local resources are not enough to meet the local population's need for salt. According to one of the witnesses who visited Rokhan and Shugnan, "all food was eaten here without salt. There is no salt in the entire region and it had to be brought from far away. Sometimes rock salt mixed with clay was brought from Badakhshan and sold at high prices. He also brought a little salt from Rangkul and set prices that the people could not afford" [6].

Low-quality salt was brought to the population of the Pamir region from Afghanistan and Darvaz. Salt was supplied to Vanch from Xingou and exchanged for iron[7]. The article published in the newspaper "Turkestanские ведомости" provides information about the salt mine in the Rangkol district, located below the Pamir slopes. It is noted that the Pamir slopes are a convenient area to go by cart, and a piece of salt broken from a salt rock is very cheap - 15-16 kopecks. It is written that, depending on the distance to the house of the resident, the cost of the trip will increase up to 2 rubles. Despite the fact that the layers of salt in the salt mine are 2-3 arshins, and some places are rocky salt, mixed with sand and gypsum, it is tasty and suitable for eating [8].

There were many mines with chemical substances in the territory of Khiva Khanate. One of them is salt, which is mined on Cheleken Island of the Khanate, in Darzh and in the Garm Basin (southern coast of the Caspian Sea). These regions were the main suppliers of local salt. Salt mining was also carried out in Sultan-Sanjar lake [9]. This made it possible to supply salt to the inhabitants of the southern part of Khiva Khanate. Kazakhs traded with lake salt along the Amudarya valley (Sonkol near Mingbulok, a group of lakes in Kyzylkum, Tuya-Shingeldi lake, etc.) along the Amudarya valley. Another salt mine in the Khiva Khanate, Sultan Saray

Lake, located 35 versts south of Pitnak, and Karagumbet, located in Ustyurt, 80 versts from Kungirov[10], were also produced.

The following information is given in the work "Firdavs ul-Iqbal" about the taking of salt from the Sultan's palace. While narrating the events of 1739, the author says: "... I went to Tuzloq, which is called the Sultan's Palace, and there is very pure and pure salt, and salt like it is rarely celebrated in the world...", the authors of the work mention [11]. Darja Peninsula, Cheleken Island, Krasnovodsk rocky coast and several other coasts in the lands inhabited by Turkmens are rich in rocky and sedimentary salt. About 200 pounds of salt were extracted from it every year. This salt was sold by the Turkmens to Khiva and Iran. Since 1866, the transportation of this salt to Khiva has been stopped. Because, due to the wars between 1855-1864, the disorganization of the Turkmens, the rise of raids and robberies, trade relations between Khiva and the Turkmens decreased [12].

In the Khiva Khanate, local producers also tried to supply the market with salt [13]. The producers brought the salt from the Sultan Suljar lake on carts and dried it. Then the product was loaded onto ships and distributed throughout the territory of the khanate. Every year, 450-500 thousand poods of salt were produced in the khanate, of which 300 thousand poods fell on the share of Sultan Suljar Lake [14]. M. Ivanin confirmed that one of the salt mines is Karakumbet, and noted that the other one is the Sultan Saray salt mine near Pitnak[15]. The salt obtained from these deposits has a purer taste. Periodical press materials also confirm that salt was obtained from Devkara and Sultan Suljar lakes belonging to the Khanate of Khiva [16]. In the 60s of the 19th century, 11 salt makers worked in the market of Khiva, the center of the khanate[17].

Mines rich in chemical raw materials also existed in the Kokan Khanate. There were many salt mines among them. About one of the salt mines, according to local sources, according to the story of the return of Koqan Khan Olimkhan from Tashkent to Ferghana in 1810, near Khojand and Oratepa, "walking along the road leading to the salt mine through the mountains, along the river, went out into the desert and stopped a farsah from the mine"[18].

Broken rock salt was found in large quantities in the Tuztog and Kashkar Dovan mountains near the cities of Osh and Namangan. The salt mine in the Berdykul Gorge (25 km from Khojand) located between Tamghar and Qamish fortresses was very famous. Also, salt was mined on the road from Khojand to Tashkent, 7 km from Kumkurgan around Karakol and Okkol, and in Kengdirtog mountains. Large-scale salt mining has been carried out in Khoja-Yagon, near Qamishkurgan. Kyrgyz mined salt in the upper reaches of Charik and Chu, as well as along Ketmontepa. The rock salt mine of Norin region (Tuyuktuz) has reached the collapsed part of the coast. The salt here was very good and clean, and anyone could dig it. Local residents also mined salt in the Oltindara gorge of the Aloy mountain range. It is interesting that the river flowing through this place is called Tuzsuv. The salt of this land is gray and needs to be cleaned before consumption[19].

The place where the Ghulomsuv River flows into the Kyzilsuv River, that is, in the territory of the village of Ghulam, there were places where salt was collected, but the quality of these salts was not good. The villagers dug it up and took it to the markets[20]. Salt was obtained from various regions of the region, including lakes in Kazoli, Shymkent and Chust districts. Since salt extraction is absolutely free, it was not possible to determine the rate of extraction of this product. It is estimated that salt production exceeded at least 1 million pounds per year[21].

So, in the Middle Ages, local residents loaded salt from some lakes in wet condition into wooden carts, and then dried the water in a field. There were also open pits that were loaded on carts with shovels. A large amount of salt was brought from the salt mountains. In addition to the use of ice for food, local residents also used it for smoking fish, processing leather, making dyes, dyeing fabrics, and medicine. Livestock were fed with rock salt. It has been widely used in the treatment of wound, bone, respiratory diseases, toothache, and as an antiseptic agent.

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