



## From the History of Names of the Khorazm Province

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the history of the creation of the civilization of the ancient Khorezm region, the history of ancient cities and cultures, their formation and development, is covered. In addition, information is given about the toponyms of Khorezm and its specific features.

**Keywords:**

Khorezm, Khwarizam, "Devonu Lugatit-Turk", Olloqulikhan, Kheva, Khevaq well, Katqala, Lower Amudryo, Urganch, Ellikqala, Bozqala, Tuproqala, Al-Fir Castle, Abu Rayhan Beruni, Abulghazi Bahadirkhan, Yahya Ghulamov.

*When we refer to history, we must consider that it is the memory of the people. Just as a person without memory cannot be a perfect person, a people who do not know their history will not have a future either.*  
**Islam Karimov.**

Toponymy is one of the unique directions of history. Toponymy is a science that studies geographical names and place names. The term toponymy is derived from the Greek language, "topos" - place, "onom" - name means the science that studies the name of a place. Humans developed their intelligence and began to call natural gifts, lands, rivers, lakes, mountains and hills by specific names. The first toponyms were simple names that did not differ from common nouns. As a result of the growth of people's perception of the environment and human intelligence, the need to distinguish one area from another appeared. The names of these places changed and new names began to appear. Central Asia, including Uzbekistan Khorezm, Sogdian, ancient Turkic inscriptions have not many toponyms. The names mentioned in Greek sources are also few. The end of the first millennium AD and the

beginning of the second millennium AD is a period in which many ancient finds were recorded in written sources for our region. The volumes "Devonu Lugotit - Turk", "History of Bukhara", "Hudud - ul Olam", "Library of Arab Geographers" are absolute topographical sources. Most of the geographical names mentioned in these records have still preserved their form. <sup>1</sup> The study of toponymy for a region is one of the main processes of history science. Khorezm region is one of the regions famous for its ancient history. The origin of the toponymy of Khorezm goes back to a long history. The climate and soil conditions of Khorezm, surrounded by barren deserts, with the help of canals and water structures, made the artificial irrigation system the basis of Eastern agriculture. is a part of the great East. Khorezm is an oasis on the banks of the Lower Amudarya, which, although it looks like the

most remote settlement, actually made a great contribution to the development of mankind. Many scientists such as Zoroaster, Beruni, Khorezmi, Najmuddin Kubro, Ogahi lived and worked on this border. As written by S. P. Tolstov, who deeply researched the history of Khorezm, the name of Khorezm is mentioned several times in Persian writings, Avesta and Pahlavi religious works, Greek, Latin, Chinese and Armenian sources. There are various legends and stories about the creation of Khorezm. One of them is mentioned by Riza Quli Khan, who was an ambassador from Iran to the court of Khan of Khiva Ollokuli Khan (1825-1842) in his work "Khorazm Safari". he ordered the giant to take him to the edge. The giant opened his fairy and searched for a long time, as the prophet said. Finally, he found Khorezm, which was a desert at that time. he decided to stay here. After a long wandering, he fell in love with a captive fairy. As a result, he started a family with a giant fairy and began to live here, this place became his homeland. That's why Khorezm's boys are like giants, and their girls are beautiful and beautiful like fairies.

<sup>1</sup> Qorayev S. Toponimika.O'quv qo'llanma.- Toshkent, 2006. – B. 3.

According to the information of the Arab traveler Muqaddasi (10th century), the king of the east ordered to exile 400 people in anger and ordered them to be taken to a deserted place. After some time, it was found that all the exiles were alive, and they were making a living by fishing and fishing. They have plenty of meat and firewood. They call meat "khor" and wood "razm". Then the king said that we will call those places Khorezm in their honor.

If we look at the information of Russian scientist Tolstov, the term "Khorazm" means sunny land. Sogdologist scientist M.N. According to Bogolyubov, Khorezm is composed of three words and has the meaning of "good fortified land". So, no matter what the toponym Khorezm means, it means a sunny country, a strong country, a country with a wonderful castle. meanings are common to this toponym.<sup>1</sup>

The capital of the Khorezm state was different in different periods. In the early period, the Kat

fortress was the capital, in the middle ages it was Urganch, and in the period of the later khanates, Khiva was the capital.

One of the first capitals of Khorezm, the city of Urganch, one of the Vairik cities, can be considered a unique part of the toponymy of Khorezm. The toponym of Urganch appears in different sources in ancient sources. In ancient Turkic sources, it is recorded as "Gurganj", in Arabic sources "Jurjaniya". Among our people, there are various assumptions about the origin of this name. Urganch toponymy means hur - sun, "Ganj - treasure", "treasure of happiness".<sup>2</sup> According to A. Ishayev, Urganch toponym means "throne palace". Looking at it from another point of view, Urganch toponym also means "big castle", "big city". Regardless of its meaning, the city of Urganch has been one of the major cities of Khorezm since ancient times. It is believed that famous scholars such as Khorezmi, Beruni, Zamakhshari, Najmiddin Kubro were educated in its bosom.

<sup>1</sup> <https://kh-davron.uz/kutubxona/uzbek/umid-bekmuhammad-xorazm-toponimi-turli-taxminlar.html>

<sup>2</sup> Dusimov Z. Toponyms of Khorezm. - Tashkent: Science, 1985. - B. 118-119.

The fate of the city of Urganch took a different shape. After Amudarya changed its course, Khan of Khiva Abulghazi Bahadirkhan founded the new city of Urganch. He also moves people from Old Urganch to New Urganch. Kokhna Urganch will also become a deserted place due to the change of the Amudarya riverbed and the lack of water.

In Khorezm datoponomy, the term "castle" is a term that is used a lot. Because it is known from the time of the Khorezm Shahs, great attention was paid to the construction of various fortresses and defense structures in the Khorezm region. As an example, we can cite Bozkala, Ellikkala, Tuproqkala, Katkala, Koykirilgankala, Jonboskala, Oyboyirkala and others.

One of the fortress-shaped capitals of Khorezm is the city of Kat. The city of Kat is located in the Ellikkala district of the present Republic of Karakalpakstan. About this city,

Abu Rayhan Beruni, who was born near this city, gives important information about Firqala and the king of Khorezm who built it in his work entitled "Monuments from Ancient Nations": his son who ascended the throne after "Afrig" was the ruler. He built his castle on Al-Fir in 305 AD. In this way, Firqala, that is, Katqala, was the capital of Khorezm for many years. The city of Kat was also the capital during the Arab invasion. then Firqala faced the powerful waves of the Amudarya and remained at the bottom of the river. Gradually, the city of Kat was washed away by the Amudarya. Soon there was no trace of the city of Kat. "History", the word "Kat" or "Katta" in Iranian terminology means a large yard surrounded by a wall, where a clan or any of its parts lived.<sup>1</sup>

Another important capital of the ancient Khorezm state is the city of Khiva. The blessed name of Khiva can be found in encyclopedias, maps, globes, historical and geographical pamphlets published in all corners of the world. There are different opinions about the etymology of the toponym of Khiva in different sources. According to the found ancient coins and Khudoyberdi Awaz Muhammad's work "Dili garayib", the city of Khiva was founded by Som, the son of Prophet Noah.

<sup>1</sup> Kilichev T. Old town. - T.: Teacher, 1993. - B. 29-30.

Another name of Khiva is Raml. The meaning of this word is sandy.

Since the city was located on the caravan route, merchants often came. Near the Khiva fortress there was a well called "Khevaq". Also exists. "Heivax" means satisfaction, satisfaction, a sign of exclamation. Others assume that "hevak" means an empty, dry, empty or porous place. Orientalist I. Beryozin connects the toponym Kheva with the words "Haiva" and "Khavi" and interprets it as dry, empty, fortress. If we dwell on the meaning of the term Khiva, it all goes back to the meaning of empty, sandy. The city of Khiva was actually built in such a place. Also, the climate of the territorial location was considered important.

Both sides of the Khorezm oasis are surrounded by endless Kyzylkum and Karakum deserts. The only water source of the Khorezm oasis is the Amudarya. The terms that existed

in Khorezm before are still found today. According to its geographical location, the toponymy of the Khorezm oasis, which is located in a special area, was gradually formed.

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