



Development Of Agricultural Culture In The Irrigation System Of The Northern And Central Regions Of The Surkhandarya Oasis

**Choriev Nuriddin
Khushbokovich,**

A Teacher At The Termez Branch Of The Tashkent Medical
Academy

ABSTRACT

Viticulture is another important branch of horticulture in the northwestern part of Boysun and Denau, as well as in the mountainous regions of Sherabad, Sariosiya, Uzun, in the foothills and foothills of Kohitang and Boysuntag, in the Gissar and foothills of the Bukhara Emirate. Surkhan oasis was also famous for its sweet apricots. Vegetables such as onions, carrots, turnips, melons, watermelons, cucumbers, pumpkins (kadi), melons, tobacco and cotton are grown in the oasis. The Surkhan oasis has long been home to sweet and long-lasting melons: olapochok, aknovvot, kokcha, borikalla, amiri, zarkokil, chapcha, otkalla, tirish, kondalangtor. Olapochok and aknovvot melons were sent to the palace of the Emir of Bukhara.

Keywords:

artificial irrigation, sedentary population, hussaini, white raisins, black raisins, nahol, black raisins, allaki, toypi, sultan, avaq, shuvurgoni, old grapes, beshqadoq, sopidak, red Surkhan, gov Surkhan, white gov Surkhan, chilgi, horse liver surkhak, mildir grapes, dilkaptar, eshvoy, sabzak, kanyorug, tuyatish, obaki, kelinbarmak.

Introduction. In the Surkhan oasis, semi-nomadic and semi-sedentary farming, based on artificial irrigation, combining agriculture with mountain and foothill crops, horticulture, viticulture, animal husbandry and traditional animal husbandry, was formed depending on different natural and geographical conditions. Mahmud ibn Wali, a 17th-century Balkh scholar, noted in his work *Bahr al-asrar fi manakib al-ahyar* that the irrigated areas of the oasis were rich in grain due to the ancient experience of grain growing [1.34,58]. During the period under study, the Surkhandarya oasis was one of the main raw material bases of the Emirate of Bukhara in grain growing. This is confirmed by the fact that in the 80s of the XIX century, in addition to the needs of the population in the oasis, 55,000 tons of grain were grown [2.63].

In the north-western parts of Boysun and Denau, as well as in the mountainous regions of Sherabad, Sariosiya, Uzun, in the foothills and

foothills of Kohitang and Boysuntag, in the mountainous and foothill areas of Gissar, arable farming is developed [3.84-85.]. At the beginning of the 20th century, 65.9% of the arable land in Sherabad principality, 86.2% in Boysun and 62.4% in Denau were dry lands [4.155-157.]. In general, the increase in dry farming in the region during this period was associated with the expansion of cotton fields in irrigated lands [5.].

In the Gissar oasis of the Eastern Bukhara principalities, the middle stream basin of the Surkhandarya, the Sherabad and Qabodiyon oases, the middle reaches of the Yahsuv (Kulob) river, and the Vakhsh (Kurgantepa) oasis, irrigated agriculture was predominant [6.116.]. Barley, wheat planted in the fall and harvested in May-June. After the harvest, oats, sesame, flax, millet were planted. Good income was obtained from cotton [7.69-71.]. Due to the lack of irrigated land in the foothills and lower parts of

the oasis and the inconvenience for dry crops as well, the settled population living in these areas specializes in horticulture. Mahmud ibn Wali also acknowledged that the climate of the Surkhandarya oasis was extremely favorable for horticulture, and noted that a rich harvest of grapes and apples could be obtained [8.59].

The pomegranates of the villages of Tarakli, Koshtegirmon in the Sherabad principality, Dashnabad in the Denov principality were famous not only in the Bukhara emirate, but also in Central Asia. About Dashnabad pomegranates N.Maev writes: "Dashnabad is a big and rich village, it is famous for its sweet pomegranates. Dashnabad pomegranates are spread throughout the Bukhara khanate. Only large and sweet Shakhrisabz pomegranates can match it" [9.186-187.].

Another important branch of horticulture in the Emirate of Bukhara was viticulture. In the Surkhan oasis, the following types of grapes are suitable for the oasis climate: husayni, white raisins, black raisins, nahol, kara bakhtiyori, allaki, toypi, sultani, avaq, shuvurgani, old grapes, beshqadoq, sopidak, red Surkhan, gov Surkhan, white gov Surkhan, chilgi, More than twenty varieties of horse liver, surkhak, mildir grapes, dilkaptar, eshvoy, sabzak, kanyorug, tuyatish, obaki, kelinbarmak have been grown [10.].

In the foothills of the Babatag of the Denau and Boysun principalities, spruce and pistachio forests stretch for several kilometers. Pistachio is one of the main sources of income for the mountain people, and in the years when the pistachio crop was good, it was possible to pick pistachios up to 4-5 pounds. Traders made huge profits by buying pistachios for 7 cents per pound and taking them to foreign countries, particularly the Russian market. In the markets of Odessa, 1 pound of pistachios was sold for 60 tyn to 1 ruble [12.].

The Surkhan oasis was also famous for its sweet apricots [13.305.]. Especially in the village of Salavot, Buzrukhoni apricots, which contain twice the amount of sugar, differed from other apricots. N.Khanikov writes about apricots: "Apricots are dried and sent to Russia

under the name of apricots. The market price of the first variety of apricots is 8 coins at the beginning, then 4 coins for each bottle. At the beginning of the apricot season, apricots are sold to Russia for 15 tenge each, then up to 1 gold "[14.128.].

The oasis grows vegetables such as onions, carrots, turnips, melons, watermelons, cucumbers, pumpkins (kadi), technical crops such as tobacco, cotton [15.]. After the invasion of the Russian Empire, new types of vegetables such as potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes appeared in agriculture. The taxation of these crops indicates that they have been grown in the oasis for a long time [16.70-73.].

The Surkhan oasis has long been home to sweet and long-lasting melons: olapochok, aknovvot, kokcha, borikalla, amiri, zarkokil, chapcha, otkalla, tirish, kondalangtor. Olapochok and aknovvot melons were sent to the palace of the Emir of Bukhara [17.309.]. According to Mahmud ibn Wali, sweet melons were grown around Termez and Denau [18.34,58.]. This tradition of growing melons has continued in later periods. In Sherabad principality, blue melon, which is not found in other principalities of the emirate, is planted. It differs from other types of melons in that it is stored for a long time (until the New Year) in addition to the melon sweetness [19.125.]. Melons grown in Sherabad were exported outside Bukhara and even to Russia.

Methods. With the transformation of the Bukhara Emirate into a vassal of the Russian Empire, some changes took place in agriculture, and as the demand for cotton increased, the area under cotton expanded in all regions of the emirate, including the Surkhandarya oasis [21.12.]. Observations show that from the same period cotton was planted in large areas in the oasis [22.97.]. In turn, attention was paid to improving the quality of cotton. From the 80s of the XIX century, instead of low-quality cotton began to grow productive and high-quality American varieties [23.116.]. In the principalities of the Surkhandarya oasis, the area under cotton has also expanded. This can be seen from Colonel Matveev's information in

1887 about the Sherabad, Surkhan and Kofarnihon areas and along the Surkhandarya River [24.21.], and Captain Stetkevich's information about the Denau and Mirshodi areas [25.279.].

In the eyes of the officials of the Russian Empire, a second Fergana was formed in the Surkhandarya oasis. A. Poslovsky, who was in Termez in 1896, notes that cotton was planted on a large area with the help of the Salovot canal, the example of which was covered with white snow [26.99-100.]. DF Stovba, a Russian citizen living in Termez, wrote to a Russian political agent in Bukhara that mandarins, tea, and especially cotton in the Surkhandarya oasis produce good yields [27.6.]. To further explore the possibility of growing cotton in the oasis, military engineer Ermalaev and General Mender came on a government assignment and concluded that tens of thousands of acres of land could be planted with cotton through the development of new lands [28.112.].

Results and discussion. It is known that in the oasis with low rainfall and hot climate, our ancestors had a well-established irrigation system. The Tallashkan, Sokhta, Ravatak, and Khojakiya canals, dug in the Sherabad region, are a good example of the well-established irrigation system during the Kushan Empire. The 10th-century Hudud ul-Alam also notes that the irrigation system was well-established and that fertile soil led to the development of agriculture in the oasis [29.114.]. The people of the oasis, who have extensive experience in the irrigation system, used streams, low mountains, and medium-high mountains in their farming. The mountainous area has more than 2,200 rivers and streams, which play an important role in agriculture, and their water reserves are 6 times more than the annual water of Surkhandarya [30.14.]. In order to regulate the water of rivers and springs, small, simple and chaotic canal networks have been established. Our ancestors found a way to irrigate agriculture even in lands far from rivers. In particular, in the foothill villages of the Surkhandarya oasis, the sewer system was used effectively. N.A. Maev writes about the ancient

construction of irrigation facilities in the oasis and the adoption of technologies for its use: "Asians have long suffered from a dry desert climate and drought. Nevertheless, they grew crops in a desert climate using sunlight. They knew how to save water and use it efficiently. In general, they have studied the technology of pumping water even in dry areas. The mountaineers overcome all difficulties in order to bring water to their lands. Water was pumped from the high mountain tops using a tarnov. In the Gumdahna gorge, not far from the city of Sherabad, there is a wooden tarnov, which is located 2-3 sarjins above the river. This device supplied water to the fields east of Sherabad. If it is not possible to build a ditch from any mountain spring, the underground ditches are the ones that use the canals "[31.310-311.].

For the development of agriculture, the Emir of Bukhara, in particular, Amir Shah Murad, considered the construction of irrigation facilities at the level of state policy and introduced a special "co-payment" tax for this purpose [32.389.]. During the reign of the Russian Empire, important measures were taken in the irrigation system in connection with the expansion of the area under cotton. As early as 1889, 10,000 desiatins of land around Termez were irrigated with the Red River, a tributary of the Surkhandarya River. [33.88] An example is the development of projects for the construction of waterworks of value [35.173.].

Conclusions. Due to the economic and political subordination of Bukhara to Russia, the irrigation system of Bukhara also came under Russian control by all means. Due to the transfer of control of the Zarafshan oasis and rivers to Russia, the western Bukhara irrigation oasis came under the full influence of the Tsarist government. The supply of Zarafshan water to Bukhara and Samarkand regions is a difficult, problematic, controversial issue between the Emir of Bukhara and the Russian Political Agency. According to the 1902 Bukhara Russian Treaty, 1/3 of the water of the Zarafshan River went to Bukhara. However, Russia violated the agreement and diverted the river to new ditches in order to develop new lands in the Zarafshan

region. The small amount of water that reached Bukhara was under the strict control of the Amir and was confirmed by the seal of the Amir.

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