



ON THE ILLUMINATION OF THE MINING HISTORY OF THE JIZZAKH OASIS IN THE SOURCES OF ARAB AND PERSIAN AUTHORS

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Abstract:

In this article, in the works of Arab and Persian authors who lived and created in the Middle Ages, the author gives a general opinion about the historical written sources about mining, which has followed its development path in the Jizzakh oasis from ancient times to the present. and opinions are given.

Keywords: Ustrushona, "Hudud al-Olam", Istahri Ibn Havqal, metallurgy, Marsmand, Mink.

In Central Asia, in the 20th and early 21st centuries, new written and archaeological sources of many historical oases are being analyzed in depth. As a result, on the basis of the researched sources, new historical information about the production sectors of different regions began to emerge. Along with various regions of Central Asia, the mining network in the Jizzakh oasis has its own stages of historical development.

The Jizzakh oasis was part of the region that was called Ustrushona, Suduyshona, Asrushana, Surushana for a certain period from the beginning of the Middle Ages. The passage of the Great Silk Road through the region paved the way for the development of various industries, including mining. In the early days, certain needs caused the development of mining relations. The roads connecting the ancient places with the places where there are various stones used for making tools and other raw materials, such as wood products, also played an important role in the system of the first communication routes. The need for strong but easy-to-work, suitable stone types for making tools of various shapes and sizes, such as limestone, flint, shale, and similar products, laid the foundation for primitive mining, the occupation of new territories by primitive people, and the first connection connecting places with mines. caused the expansion of their networks. [1. 10]

We believe that it is reasonable to base the article on the historical sources of the mining industry in the economic life of Jizzakh oasis, in general, 3 types of written materials. In particular, it is appropriate to consider Chinese chronicles and historical documents covering the early Middle Ages as the first type, valuable historical works of Arab and Persian authors that provide valuable information about the advanced





Middle Ages as the second sources, and written sources of the XX-XXI period as the third type. It is important that we receive the results of scientific researches created as a result of archaeological expeditions and excavations carried out in the oasis area. We can get valuable information about the early medieval Jizzakh oasis and its mining relations from the annals written by Chinese rulers. [3. 13-14].

During the Middle Ages, the mining industry of the Jizzakh oasis began to develop. By this time, various minerals were mined from the oasis, and necessary items and equipment were made for use in economic and economic life. According to Al-Muqaddasi, gold was mined from the mines on the side of the mountain road from Ustrushana to Khuttal. This author reports that silver was also mined near the town of Khasht belonging to Ustrushona, as well as from Buttam. Some historians, including M.H. Pardayev, J.I. Gofurov, believe that the city of Khasht functioned on the site of the current Old Khovos city monument (Khovos district). [3. 190]

In the Middle Ages, there are a number of works written by reliable Arab and Persian authors about the history of Ustrushona. For example, we can get preliminary information about the development of Ustrushona's mining industry in the middle ages from "Khudud al-Olam" whose author is unknown. This source provides information about the extraction of iron ore from the mountainous regions of the region. In addition, Jarir al-Tabari's "Tarikh ar-rusul wal-l-muluk", Jabir al-Balazuri's "Kitab futuh al-buldan", Al-Istahri's "Kitab al-masalik as-mamalik", Abu Ziyad al-Balkhi "Suwar al-aqalim", "Kitab al-masalik wal-l-mamalik" by Abul Qasim ibn Khawqal, "Aqsan al-taqasim fi marifat al-aqalim" by Abu Abdullah al-Muqaddasi, Abu Bakr al-Hamadani's "Kitab al-buldan", "Kitab al-masalik wa-l-mamalik" by Abul-Qasim ibn Khordadbeh, "Kitab al-kharaj" by Abu Faraj Qudama, "Kitab al-a'lak an-nafisa" by Abu Ahmad ibn Rusta, Jafar Valuable information about the history, geography, socio-economic and political life of the country of Ustrushona is given in works such as "Kitab al-buldan" by al-Yaqubi [3. 20-21]. Also, according to the works of the above-mentioned writers, mining, ore processing and smelting, metal agricultural tools and household items, military armor making, textiles (cotton thread, silk, wool, tweed fabrics), pottery, carpentry, leather and leather goods, water mills, jewelry were widely used and developed. There are many types of handicrafts in Ustrushona, and Bunjikat, Mink, Marsmand, Zomin, Dizak, Munchogtepa, Sabat have operated as specialized centers in some of them. [3. 191]

The author is unknown, but in some sources it is assumed that it was written by an author who created in the land of the Arab caliphate. , there are many pleasures, towns and villages. A lot of wine is made there, and iron is mined in its mountains.





In the book "Kitab al-masalik wal-l-mamalik" written by Ibn Khavqal, he dug in the Mink village of Ustrushona and nearby Marsmand region, a message about the iron ore that can be extracted and the military weapons that can be made from it gives [4. 118].

In his work, Istahri gives the following information: "This ridge, which starts from the village of Varka, stretches between Kesh and Samarkand to Samarkand, connects to the Buttam mountains. It reaches the latitudes of Ushrusana and Fergana, and passes to Shalji district and Taraz. I was told by someone who traveled on those roads that it then continues to the border of Sin. Mineral deposits from Ushrusana, Fergana, Ilaq, Shalji and Laban to the land of Khirkhiz are located in these and adjacent mountains. Based on this source, we can get valuable information about the abundance of iron deposits in the Ustrushona mountains [2. 152-153].

Many excavations were carried out in the Ustrushona region in order to determine the current location of the place names given in the works of Arab and Persian authors and to create the basis of these sources. By the 20th century, the field of history began to develop, including the field of archeology of history, and many artifacts that existed in history, but were forgotten over time, were brought back to life from under the sands and soils. In this century, many archaeologists organized expeditions and conducted excavation research in Jizzakh oasis along with other oases. On the basis of practical research carried out by archaeologists, many materials related to the mining industry of the oasis were discovered. As a result of these materials, it was possible to substantiate and locate many sources written in the early Middle Ages and advanced Middle Ages, new information and conclusions were created that were not given in the sources of this area, but scientists are putting forward different opinions. In particular, about the controversial processes about the location of the Marsmanda and Mink regions, which are the metallurgical centers of Ustrushona, Ustrushonologist N.N. Negmatov, L.M. Sverchkov, E.V. Rtveladze, O.I. Smirnova, M.E. Masson, P.P. Ivanov, V.V. Scientists such as Barthold explained their scientific approach based on their research. The reason for the diversity of these opinions is that the geographers of the Middle Ages did not leave enough information about the geographical location and special features of the Mink settlement of Ustrushona and the nearby town of Marsmanda. In the opinion of V. Bartold, a great specialist in the medieval period of the history of the peoples of Central Asia, orientalist V. Bartold, the place of Mink and Marsman should be sought in the upper reaches of the Zarafshan [5. 169]. Archaeologist L. Sverchkov found a rural area in the highland area, known as Miq Castle, in the eastern parts of the Morguzar mountain system, and conducted excavations there for several seasons. In his opinion, the legendary





Marsmand, a place of master metalsmiths, was located exactly on the site of the Miq fortress [6. 52].

In conclusion, it should be noted that through the works of Arab and Persian authors, we can know that the mining industry in the Jizzakh oasis was continuously developing during the Middle Ages. Also, historical written sources about the history of the medieval mining industry related to this oasis, as well as archaeological excavations, are being carried out. At the same time, written documents related to the economic sphere of the region and information found as a result of archeological excavations are the cause of various disputes among representatives of the sphere.

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