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Annotation: *This article, based on historical sources and existing literature, analyzes the historical and geographical position of the Guzar district, one of the district of the Kashkadarya oasis, which occupies a leading place in the military-political and economic position in the affairs of the Bukhara Emirate.*

Keywords: *Guzar, Khuzar, Dzhinnidarya, Large Uradarya, Small Uradarya, Beshbulak, Garmiston, Eskibag, Turakurgan.*

The geographical location of Guzar district corresponds to the hills on the western slopes of the Hisar mountain range and is located 45 versts southeast of Karshi [1:663].

Guzar district is bounded by the upper reaches of Large Uradarya from the north, the eastern part of Large Uradarya and Kirshaktog from the east, and 35-40 latitude from the west.

The Kuyitang River, which flows through the western part of the district, is considered the border of the Guzar and Kelif districts. The eastern, southern and western parts of the Guzar mountain range are made up of mountainous areas. Only the northwestern part of the district, i.e. bordering the Karshi district, consisted of a plain. In the 19th century, the border of Guzar and Karshi districts started from the village of Yangikent, which is 1150 feet above sea level. The height of the mountains in the eastern and southeastern part of Guzar range was 2200-2400 feet [2:154-155].

There is information that the city of Guzar is located at an altitude of 1530 feet, 718 mm [3:24]. According to another source, the city of Guzar has an absolute height of 1310 feet and 38.36.18. It is mentioned that it is located in the northern latitude and 35.53.15 eastern longitude [4:34]. At the end of the 19th century, the climate of the oasis was continental and dry, and the difference between the average temperature between day and night and winter and summer was very large. In winter, the snow lasts up to three months, and in some years, the spring snow has arrived. Despite this, due to the heat of the air, evaporation was strong, and the fields dried up immediately after the rain. Kashkadarya is considered the main river of the oasis, and its tributaries Jinnidarya, Aksuv, Yakkabagdarya, Guzardarya rivers (along with Large and Small Uradarya) are saturated with snow, rain and glacial waters.

Kashkadarya, together with its tributary Guzardarya, is considered to be the second most important river of eastern Bukhara. It started from Hisar ridges and provided water to Shakhrisabz and Karshi oases, the largest oases in the oasis. The waters of this river were used to irrigate the fields and gardens of the oasis.

Guzardarya is formed by the confluence of Large and Small Uradarya Rivers and is considered the main source of water supplying Guzar district.

In Chinese sources, Large Uradarya river is called Tamo, Tun. P. Pele called it Dumo. V.V.Bartold noted that Guzardarya, that is, Large Uradaryo, is located 8 farsakhs from the city of Kesh [5:188]. The Large and Small Uradarya rivers start from the Changar mountains and merge in the village of Koshilish above the city of Guzar, and get the name Guzardarya. The amount of water in Guzardarya depends on the amount of snow that falls on the mountains, and it has flowed to the village of Yangikent. Due to the fact that Large and Small Uradarya flowed through salt deposits in its middle course, the water of the Guzar river was more salty.

The flow of all the rivers in the mountainous regions of district is very fast and overflows during rainy days. There is a lot of water in the streams here in March and April, and they dry up in May.

There were many wells in the western part of Guzar region due to water shortage. But in most of them, the water is salty and used only for the needs of livestock. According to the sources, drinking water for the residents of this area was brought from fresh water wells 10-12 versts away. Drinking water comes from 10 wells in Beshbulak, 4 versts southwest of Tangiharam village, Uzunkud 22 versts south of Tangiharam, Batpak well, 5 versts northeast, well in Zakhcha village between Karshi city and Kuytang, and taken from other wells[13:96-100].

Some experts note that the plain part of the oasis is divided into Kitab-Shakhrisabz, Kitab-Kamashi, Kokdala, Karshi-Guzar and lower Kashkadarya districts according to the climate, hydraulic and economic conditions [6:9-10]. The geographical location of the oasis, its roads, mountains and plains were studied by the Russian military in the second half of the 19th century. The main purpose of this was to find convenient places during military campaigns, to determine the possibilities of their future use and their important aspects. Although these works were carried out for the sake of the colonial interests of Tsarist Russia, their importance for science is explained by the fact that important information was obtained for the study of the historical geography of the oasis.

Guzar is located in the Guzardarya valley and is considered one of the villages on the important strategic and convenient trade route (intersection) connecting Sughd with Takharistan (Bactria). This rustak (village) geographically separated the upper and lower Kashkadarya oasis regions from each other.

It has been confirmed that the first settlement in the territory of the city of Khuzar (Guzar) dates back to the first centuries AD, which is mentioned in the Samarkand documents of the 15th century. The city is located in the area where the caravan routes connecting Shakhrisabz and Karshi with Termiz[14:6] cross. It was surrounded by fortress walls, had an arch, several guzars and city gates, and its area reached 12 hectare. According to these signs, Guzar can be included among the small trade and craft cities located on the caravan routes.

The ruins of the Bey Horde in its current location are called Turakurgan. Guzardarya flowed through the middle of the city, and the two parts of the city were connected by two bridges [7:15-16]. The city is located on the left bank of Guzardarya, and its eastern gate is called "Timur Gate". After the Arab attack, the city moved to the right bank of the river. The center of the city is surrounded by a straw wall 2 meters thick and 4-5 meters high. In the city there are the gates of Karshi, Kunchigar and Charmgar, and neighborhoods such as Khojaguzar, Charmgar, Boyguzar, Tashkurgan. The ruins of this large fortress were preserved until the 18th century. At the beginning of the 19th century, the ruins of the city were completely destroyed, the city was formed in its current place, administrative and other facilities were built [8:9]. In turn, the Tutan gate in the north-east of Karshi city, which is connected to the Guzar road, was also called the Guzar gate.

The Guzar manor is also considered one of the most important manors of the emirate, and Amir Haydar stood here as a manor during the years of his father's rule. At the beginning of the 20th century, Guzar district was ruled by the brother of the Bukhara emir. Guzar manor is divided into 6 estates [11:79]. The first estate of Guzar district was called Afgan, and it included 10 villages with 2000 inhabitants, located north of Guzar city and on the right side of Guzardarya. The second estate is called Garistan estate with 1600 inhabitants, located in the northwest of Guzar city and on the left side of Guzardarya river, it consists of 16 villages. The third is the Eskibag property, which includes 9 villages with more than 1,600 inhabitants located in the western and southern parts of Guzar city (up to 22 versts away). The fourth estate was called Katta Ura due to its location in the Large Uradarya river valley and included 40 villages with a population of 3,000 people. The fifth estate located in the valley of the Little Uradarya river was called Little Ura and included 17 villages with 1500 inhabitants [2:164].

Amloks (estates) consisted of several villages, which were led by an amlokdar. Villages were governed by elders elected by the local population and approved by the bek. The villages inhabited by Tajiks were ruled by arbobs, and the semi-sedentary pastoralists were ruled by elbegis.

The sixth estate is the Kirshak estate, consisting of 19 villages located along the Kirshakdarya stream, with a population of about 2,000.

At the end of the 19th century, Russian military officers gave information about the roads from Kelif to Guzar and Karshi. Kuhitang village was the only market on the Kelif-Guzar road, and then the road passed to Sherabad [9:194-195].

N.Mayev noted that residents living in the villages between Amudarya and Guzar sold their agricultural products and livestock to the market in the village of Kohitang in the Sherabad district, which worked on tuesdays and fridays.

N.A.Mayev confirmed that the road was have passed to Guzar, Tangi Haram (Dehkanabad), Sherabad and Kelif from the village of Kohitang in Sherabad province [12:49-51].

Captain Petrov, the Russian military adviser, gave information about the roads leading to Boysun, Sherabad, Guzar, and the roads from Darband through the Kholkon mountain and the Karakhoval pass to the villages on the banks of the Small Uradarya for the transportation of goods. So, in ancient and medieval times, the city and region of Guzar was considered one of the potential centers at the intersection of the trade routes of the region and the entire Central Asia.

In the Oasis, the main taxes were the khiraj prescribed by Sharia, land taxes like them, and zakat from handicrafts, livestock, and trade. But in practice, many additional taxes, fees and obligations remain.

There were about 50 taxes and fees in Bukhara Emirate. In one year, zakat was collected in the amount of 140,000 coins in Guzar District **[10:79]**.

The city of Guzar developed rapidly due to its favorable geographical conditions and location on the trade route. In the 19th century, the city was divided into two parts: Horda and Kurgan. Horde was considered the residence of a local bey, and its ruins are located on the right bank of the Guzardarya river and are now called Turakurgan. Guzar Begi is called tura.

The city of Guzar is surrounded by defensive walls. The trade routes that passed through here were important in the formation and development of the city. At the beginning of the 20th century, a new caravanseray - Aksaray - was built in Guzar. There were several caravanserais, mosques and other public buildings in the city. Thursdays and Fridays were market days in Guzar **[15:5]**.

According to the statistics of the first quarter of the 20th century, in 1924, 3 regions were formed in the Kashkadarya region: Guzar, Karshi, Shakhrisabz **[16:59-63]**. The area of Guzar region is 4,978 sq. kilometre, the population is 37,405 people, and 7.5 people correspond to 1 sq. km. Guzar region includes Guzar, Tangiharam (Dehkanabad), Yangikent districts.

The area of Guzor province was 4,500 square versts or 9 miles, and there were 260 people per square kilometer on average. About 22,000 of the population settled in the Large Uradarya valley, about 3,500 in the Little Uradarya, and about 2,000 in the Guzardarya banks, that is, in the north-east of the mountain. In some areas of District, the population was relatively dense, in particular, the total area of Harmiston estate is 3.5 square miles, with an average of about 550 people per square mile **[2:165]**.

Thus, according to the sources, Guzar was historically and geographically considered one of the oases convenient for irrigated agriculture. Guzar is distinguished by its wealth of historical events in the second half of the 19th century. During this period, Guzar became one of the largest districts of the Bukhara Emirate. Guzar had the same status as Hisar, Sherabad, Boysun, Nurata, Karmana.

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