

# Livestock breeding in Amu Darya district 1873 - 1917

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**Abstract.** This article discusses the Livestock world after Tsarist Russia's conquest of Central Asia. In writing the article, we wrote based on the method of unity of history and logic. And based on archival materials, we have updated our analysis of livestock.

**Keywords:** Amu Darya district, Tsarist Russia, livestock, agricultural characteristics, cattle breeding.

**Introduction.** Tsarist Russia, having conquered the Central Asian khanates, adhered to a policy aimed at strengthening its power in the region and viewed the Central Asian region as a raw material appendage of the Russian Empire. This policy of tsarism influenced the cultural and economic situation in Turkestan, including in Karakalpakia. After the conquest of the Khiva Khanate by the tsarist army (1873), Karakalpakstan was divided into two parts. From the right-bank Karakalpak land, the Amu Darya department was formed as part of Russia, and the left-bank lands of Karakalpak remained part of the Khiva Khanate, under the protectorate of tsarism.

In many pre-revolutionary literary sources, in particular in the materials of the Resettlement Administration of 1912-1913, as well as in the official documents of the administrative apparatus, in the Amudarya Department of 1874-1875. A survey was carried out by the Amudarya organizational commission, as a result, the Amudarya department was divided into two sections: settled and nomadic. The entire Chimbay section, the Mingbulak, Tamdy and Biybazarsike volosts, were considered nomadic, and only the rest of the Shurakhan area volosts were recognized as sedentary. Such a rough division did not correspond to the real economic life of the population of the Amu Darya department.

Research materials indicate that the Tsarist authorities in Turkestan, in particular Karakalpakstan, did not take into account the agricultural characteristics of the region and, pursuing colonial goals, forced the local population to sow cotton. This policy of Tsarism had a negative impact on other branches of agriculture, including animal husbandry.

**Materials and methods.** Livestock raising in Karakalpakstan has been an integral part of agriculture since ancient times. This is evidenced by archaeological finds in the Amirabat culture of the 9th-8th centuries. before. n. eh<sup>1</sup>. In particular, the settlement "Kerder" where part of the population led a semi-sedentary lifestyle specialized in cattle breeding. Therefore, S.P. is right. Tolstov, claiming that "the economic experience of the population of the delta regions of the Amu Darya and Syrdarya in the field of animal husbandry, in the breeding of cattle, horses and camels dates back to ancient times"<sup>2</sup>.

There is also other information on the breeding of cattle as the main livestock in Karakalpaki, as reported by P.P. Ivanov, who so characterizes the economy of the Karakalpaks of the 18th century "The specific natural features of the delta regions did not allow the Karakalpaks of the 18th-19th centuries. will concentrate entirely on agriculture, and contributed to the development of another branch of their economy - cattle breeding. It is impossible to make large migrations and use in this way, the stocks of pasture forced the Karakalpaks to use reeds as the main food for livestock, significant thickets of which still cover the areas in the lower reaches of the river. The same circumstance, apparently, influenced the composition of the herd, in which, in contrast to the Kazakh economy, the Karakalpaks are dominated by cattle with an extremely limited economy of sheep and goats. For the winter season, the Karakalpaks produced feed preparation<sup>3</sup>. Such a feature of cattle breeding among the Karakalpaks, observed in the 18th century in the lower reaches of the Syr Darya, was preserved in the 19th century in the Amu Darya delta. Therefore, S.P. is right. Tolstov, arguing that "cattle breeding in the first half of the 19th century remained a characteristic feature of the Karakalpak economy. For cattle and horses, the preparation of fodder for the winter was practiced - reed

<sup>1</sup> S.P. Tolstov. along the ancient deltas of the Oks and Yaksart. p. 225.

<sup>2</sup> Review of the Syrdarya region for 1906, p. 233.

<sup>3</sup> P.P. Ivanov "Essays on the history of the Karakalpaks." - M - L., 1935. -- pp. 48

hay, scrapping, rice, millet, wheat, barley, as well as stalks of dzhugara and alfalfa"<sup>4</sup>. It should be noted that in relation to the natural and geographical features of the lower reaches of the Amu Darya, the population of Karakalpak has been engaged in integrated farming since ancient times: agriculture, cattle breeding, fishing<sup>5</sup>.

Thus, analyzing historical information, we can conclude that even before the conquest of tsarist Russia, animal husbandry, especially cattle breeding in Karakalpak, developed in combination with agriculture and was of secondary importance in the economy, and in some regions it was even the main type of economy. Livestock raising on the farms of both sedentary and nomadic population - cattle were used as a draft force, providing meat, milk and butter. Camels and horses served as a vehicle and for driving the action of chigiri, sheep were kept for wool and leather.

In the first years of the conquest, the Tsar's power in Karakalpakia was mainly interested in agriculture, especially cotton growing, but the lack of settled farms prevented the increase in the fields sown with cotton. Therefore, during the activities of the Organizing Commission, Colonel Nosovich took a number of administrative measures against seasonal economic migrations. These administrative measures forced the nomadic and semi-nomadic population to stop all kinds of movement in the region and gradually move to a sedentary lifestyle. At the same time, the cessation of seasonal movement of the population ensured a stable composition of taxpayers<sup>6</sup>. But this was not the only measures taken by the Organizing Commission, there was also taxation, which accounted for heavy, especially nomadic and semi-nomadic populations of the Amu Darya department. The nomadic population paid a wage tax in the amount of 4 rubles. from each wagon - 1915 in the amount of 9 rubles, the zemstvo fee from each wagon is 2 rubles. 25 kopecks - 1915 increased to 37%.<sup>7</sup> If in 1912 the sedentary population of the Amu Darya department paid a tax in the amount of 78692 rubles. 30 kopecks then the nomadic and semi-nomadic population paid 138,998 rubles.<sup>8</sup>. As a result, livestock farms, unable to migrate and keep livestock, were forced to sell their livestock on the market for almost nothing.

Thus, it should be noted that the tsarist government was only interested in agriculture, especially cotton growing, and took various measures to increase the number of sedentary farms. According to the head of the Amudarya department, Colonel Galkin, it is reported that, from 1877 to 1897, 139 nomadic households and 2371 semi-nomadic households received land in the Amudarya department in 20 years. Such a policy of Tsarism painfully affected the livestock farms of the Amu Darya department and hindered the development of this culture.

Despite the colonial goals of the tsarist autocracy, the annexation of Central Asia, including Karakalpakia, to Russia objectively also had progressive significance. It was expressed in the fact that Karakalpakia was gradually drawn into the sphere of the economic life of Russia, conditions arose in it for the revival of agriculture, in particular the development of animal husbandry, the creation of the first industrial enterprises and the growth of trade.

The growth of trade in livestock products especially intensified after the conquest of Karakalpakia by tsarist Russia. The introduction of trade and monetary relations in the economy of the region intensified the process of decomposition of the natural economy. If earlier the livestock farms of the Amu Darya department produced livestock products mainly to meet their own needs, now, with an increase in demand in the markets from Russian traders, it produces livestock products for sale.

At the end of the 19th century, trade in the Amu Darya department took place exclusively in bazaars that functioned twice a week. All these bazaars at the beginning of the 20th century turned into centers of trade not only between the local population - Uzbeks, Turkmen, Kazakhs, but also Russian merchants. Cattle, horses, sheep and goats were the products sold by livestock farms. According to Girshfeld and

<sup>4</sup> S.P. Tolstoy "On the ancient deltas of the Oxus and Yaksart" - M. 1962. - pp. 308.

<sup>5</sup> S.P. Tolstov "Cities of Guzes" Soviet Ethnography, 1947, - No. 3 - P. 99.

<sup>6</sup> T.A. Zhdanko. Essays on the historical ethnography of the Karakalpaks, p. 153.

<sup>7</sup> Direct Tax Charter, b. m., b. g., pp. 9-10.

<sup>8</sup> Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan f. I-17, op. 8, d. 17465, l. 9-10

Galkin: "The Karakalpaks of the Shumanai bekstvo, the Chimbay site of the Amu Darya department were the main suppliers of cattle in all markets of the oasis."<sup>9</sup>.

**Results and discussions.** According to the information of the resettlement administration, at the bazaars a horse of the Kazakh breed cost 20 to 40 rubles on average, and a horse of the Karakalpak breed "Karabair" from 55 to 75 rubles. and horses of the Turkmen breed "Argymaki" were very rare among the local population<sup>10</sup>.

The main livestock products were astrakhan skins, and butter was in great demand, leaving the hands of producers and concentrating in the hands of buyers, before being taken out of the department, it was already a subject of wholesale trade. Butter, which was sold to buyers at 7-9 rubles. for a pood went to the Caucasus at a higher price. Some of the buyers made advance payments for oil. At the beginning of the 20th century, about 3,000 thousand poods of oil were exported annually from the Chimbay site alone.<sup>11</sup>. All products accumulated mainly from Russian merchants. So, in 1899, from the Amu Darya department, leather for 95 thousand rubles was sent to Russia, wool for 65 thousand rubles. etc.<sup>12</sup>. Leather was transported to Moscow and to the Nizhny Novgorod fair, wool - to the cities of the middle Volga region, butter - to Baku<sup>13</sup>.

Camel breeding played a significant role in the trade of the Amu Darya Territory, because camels served as the only means of transport in the desert regions of Karakalpak. In trade, before the construction of railways, camel breeding was intensively developed among the nomadic and semi-nomadic population, mainly in the desert regions of Kyzyl Kum. So, for example, in 1881, 9240 camels with loads (felts, skins, etc.) were sent in caravans from the Shurakhan section of the Amu Darya department to the Khiva Khanate for a total of 42 thousand rubles. from the Khiva Khanate on the right bank of the Amu Darya arrived 27 thousand camels with goods for a total of 719 thousand rubles.<sup>14</sup> The center of camel breeding was the Tamdy region, through which important caravan routes from Russia to the Khiva and Bukhara khanates ran for a long time.<sup>15</sup>. According to Girshfeld and Galkin, 104,450 camels were read in the Khorezm oasis, of which 13100 were in the Amu Darya department, and 91350 in the Khiva Khanate.

In addition, there was a caravan route that connected the Khorezm oasis with the Bukhara Khanate. In turn, the caravan road through Chimbay - Kazalinsk connected the Chimbay section with the railway. So every year 85 thousand camels, loaded with goods, 20 thousand arb arrived in Russia along caravan routes. Loaded mainly with cotton, wool, silk, astrakhan fur, leather and other goods.

Thus, the growing demand for livestock products from various commercial and industrial firms led to the emergence of the first industrial enterprises for the primary processing of livestock products in the Amu Darya department. One of these emerged in the Shurakhan area, a tannery and a brewery<sup>16</sup>. Penkov's tannery in the city of Petro-Aleksandrovsk, which arose in 1874, amounted to products in the amount of 10-15 thousand rubles. in the 70s<sup>17</sup>. In the 80s. years, skins were produced for 40 thousand rubles. And in the Chimbay area, the tannery of the Vanyushkin brothers emerged in 1882, which stood inactive<sup>18</sup>. Only at the end of the 19th century, a large oil mill was built in the Chimbay region, which produced 5 thousand rubles. in year<sup>19</sup>. So later the opening of tanneries in the Chimbayk area than in the Shurakhan area was the

<sup>9</sup> Girshfeld and Galkin. Military-statistical description ..., part II, p. 171.

<sup>10</sup> Materials on the survey of nomadic and sedentary indigenous economy and land use in the Amudarya department of the Syrdarya region, vol. 1, p. 286

<sup>11</sup> Girshfeld and Galkin. Military statistical description ..., part II, p. 171

<sup>12</sup> W.H. Shalekenov. Kazakhs of the lower reaches of the Amu Darya, p. 114.

<sup>13</sup> History of the Karakalpak ASSR, Tashkent 1986, p. 123.

<sup>14</sup> A significant part of this amount falls on green tea - 266 thousand rubles.

<sup>15</sup> Essays on the history of the Karakalpak ASSR. T. 1, p. 232.

<sup>16</sup> TsGA RUz, f. I-907, op. 1, d.270, l. 38.

<sup>17</sup> CGARUz, f. I-907, op. 2, d.272, l. 48-49; d. 271, l. 28-30.

<sup>18</sup> CGARUz, f. I-907, op. 1, d.209, l. 2.

<sup>19</sup> CGARUz, f. I-907, op. 1, d.209, l. 2

incorrect definition of this area as “nomadic”. In the 90s of the XIX century, the number of factory enterprises in the Amu Darya department reached 23, they produced goods for 390 thousand rubles.

Most of the factories and industrial enterprises belonged to agents of various commercial and industrial firms in central Russia, namely the firms of the "Partnership of the Big Yaroslavl Manufactory", "Moscow Trade and Industrial Partnership", "Partnership of the Shuiskaya Manufactory" and others. Basically, trade and usury operations in the cities and villages of Karakalpakstan were carried out by representatives of the national bourgeoisie in the person of Manuilov, G. Vavilov, S. Aminov, B. Allakulov, Z. Rozybergenov, Salimdzhanov, Bakalov, Aliev, Samandarov and others. They accepted all kinds of raw materials, which they resold to the population at higher prices. However, Russian commercial and industrial capital created here only enterprises for the primary processing of agricultural raw materials for factories and factories of Russian capitalists and were dwarf ones with primitive technology and a total number of workers not exceeding 114 people.<sup>20</sup>

However, the development of trade and the emergence of industrial enterprises objectively had a progressive character in animal husbandry. In the work of T.G. Tukhtametov, there is information about the development of animal husbandry in the Amu Darya department. According to his data in 1984, the population of the Amu Darya department had: cattle 33935 heads, horses 22842, sheep 68730, camels 8850 and goats 46,040 heads. And in 1907, cattle 94,800 heads, 41350 horses, fat tail sheep 214,000, astrakhan sheep 74090 (bred only in the Shurakhan region), in total 288090 sheep, camels 19050, goats 86500, donkeys 3500, pigs 12<sup>21</sup>.

**Conclusion.** Thus, we see that at the beginning of the XX century. the number of all types of livestock has increased, especially sheep. This is due to the fact that with the introduction of commodity-money relations, changes took place in the composition of the herd of livestock farms in the Amudarya department and sheep, especially astrakhan sheep, became the main livestock raised. If earlier in Karakalpakia the main livestock raised was cattle, now, the high demand for karakul breeding forced livestock breeders, including cattle breeders of the Chimbay region, to pay serious attention to this culture, which led to the development of astrakhan breeding. An intensive growth in the number of astrakhan sheep can be traced back to the end of the 19th century. The number of astrakhan sheep in the Amu Darya department at the end of the 19th century. reached 7200 heads<sup>22</sup>, 1906-1908 the number of astrakhan sheep in the Amu Darya department increased by 60 thousand and reached 74,090 heads<sup>23</sup>. All this shows the gradual but steady development of sheep breeding, in particular, karakul breeding in Karakalpakstan.

Speaking about the development of the economy, especially about the cattle breeding of Karakalpakstan, two stages can be traced: the first - from the beginning of the colonial regime to the end of the 19th century. where in the national economy of the metropolis itself, bourgeois transformations were carried out, breaking up the old serf relations. At this stage, Karakalpakstan was mainly a sales market for Russian products, cattle breeding was typical in all farms of the Amu Darya department. Only by the end of the first stage, when elements of a commodity economy appeared, a single market for the Amu Darya department began to take shape. And the second stage from the 90s of the XIX century to 1917, in which the specialization of agriculture appears, animal husbandry develops due to trade and Karakalpakia begins to be drawn into the general Turkestan and all-Russian, and through them into the world market.

Thus, trade in agricultural products was widely developed, enterprises and buyers appeared, new markets were formed, domestic and foreign trade grew, and the natural economy was decomposing. However, all these processes were extremely painful for the working people. The impoverishment of the masses was widespread. Karakalpakstan turned into a raw material appendage of the Russian Empire.

<sup>20</sup> CGARUZ, f. I-209, op. 1, d. 464, l. 2;

<sup>21</sup> T.G. Tukhtametov. "Amudarya department", N., 1977, p. 119.

<sup>22</sup> W.H. Shalekenov. Kazakhs of the lower reaches of the Amu Darya, p. 114.

<sup>23</sup> History of the Karakalpak ASSR. Nukus "Karakalpakistan" 1989 p. 135.

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