



## Practical and Historical Results of Projects in the Amudarya and Sherabad Irrigation Systems

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### Abstract:

During the reign of the Russian Empire, important measures were taken in the irrigation system of the Surkhandarya oasis. At the same time, local authorities are beginning to build new irrigation networks to meet the population's demand for land and water, thanks to the efforts and mobilization of the people. Indigenous peoples used all methods of artificial irrigation systems for farming. In turn, the officials of the Russian Empire, who came to the oasis, also implemented measures for the irrigation system to improve the water supply and meet the demand for food in the cities and villages inhabited by Russian soldiers and residents.

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**Introduction.** During the Russian rule, important measures were taken in the irrigation system of the Surkhandarya oasis. At the same time, local authorities are beginning to build new irrigation networks to meet the population's demand for land and water, thanks to the efforts and mobilization of the people. In 1906, in order to bring water from Surkhandarya to the territory of Sherabad principality, the representative of the Emir of Bukhara Boymurad guard signed a contract with the elders of the local estate. According to the agreement, it is agreed to develop 1,500 hectares of land in the direction of Jarqurghon. The agreement was signed by Mirza Salimbek, the prince of Sherabad, and Judge Mulla Abdulla Khoja, a representative of the political department of the Russian Empire in Bukhara [1.306]. It is noteworthy that the Zang Canal project, which began in 1908, was designed by a man named Eshonbek. He showed a 55- to 60-kilometer-long canal road on horseback. The prince himself was in charge of digging the rust canal. More than 4,000 people took part in the canal excavation. The Jarqurghon stream will be extended to the village of Zang. The canal was divided into twelve small ditches near the village of Zang, which supplied water to the surrounding lands. In September 1911,

the population appealed to Amir Alimkhan to expand the Zang Canal again. Sherabad Begi received instructions from the Emir to meet the demands of the people, and in 1912 work was carried out to expand the Zang Canal. Sherabad begi Robikhojabi, in addition to the surrounding population, also brought labor from Gilambob, Tallashkan, Maydaarik estates, using 1,000-1,500 laborers per day for two months to deliver the canal to Novshahar. The local population settled in the newly developed lands [2.309.].

**Methods.** Indigenous peoples used all methods of artificial irrigation systems for farming. In turn, the officials of the Russian Empire, who came to the oasis, also implemented measures for the irrigation system to improve the water supply and meet the demand for food in the cities and villages inhabited by Russian soldiers and residents. The work done in Termez is a clear example of this. The government of the Russian Empire has taken important measures in the irrigation system, taking into account the fact that the Surkhandarya oasis borders with Afghanistan and through it the British's selfish demands for the territory of the Bukhara Emirate are growing. The most important task was the issue of water supply of the military city. As early as 1889, measures were taken to irrigate 10,000 acres of land around the city of Termez with the Red River, a tributary of the Surkhandarya [3.8.]. In order to improve the city's water supply, in December 1897, work began on repairing the Salavat canal. In February 1898, repairs were completed and the water supply was improved [4.248.].

**Results and discussion.** In turn, the purchase of land from the territory of the oasis by officials of the Russian Empire continued unabated. They are 1000 sq.m. with Surkhandarya water without large irrigation constructions. found that it was possible to cultivate agricultural crops by cultivating a large amount of land [5.89.]. The Emir of Bukhara was required to allocate additional land to strengthen the garrison and station troops. In 1900, the Emir of Bukhara granted the Kattakum Desert in the north, Surkhandarya in the northeast, and the Amudarya in the southwest, a triangular piece of land with a total area of 10,514 desiatins, on the condition that it could not be returned to Russia and signed an act to that effect. In return, the Emir of Bukhara, Abdullah, asked for the title of Russian general or the award of the highest badge "Andrei Pervozvanny." He was given the title of Russian general. Thus, in exchange for the title of Russian general, the city of Termez, now the regional center, and the surrounding lands were given to the Russian Empire [6.1-2.]. The settlements of Termez and Pattakesar, located in this area occupied by the government of the Russian Empire, were primarily military fortifications. Its territory was 11,600 desiatins, of which 9,935 desiatins were directly owned by Russia, and the remaining 1,665 desiatins were under the influence of the Russians, and were the private property of the inhabitants of local villages such as Pattakesar, Salihabad, and Manguzar. The area of Pattakesar is 683 acres, the remaining 982 acres are other villages.

The Russian part of the Pattakesar settlement, which numbered 250 desiatinas, was under the control of the head of the Termez military garrison. Of the 2,462.5 desiatins of land donated by the Emir of Bukhara, 682 desiatins were irrigated lands and 1,780.5 desiatins were non-irrigated lands [7.52.]. There were also problems with irrigating irrigated lands. The Salavat and Pattakesar canals, which irrigated these lands, were not a robust irrigation system. Salavat was washed away when the Surkhandarya river overflowed, at the height of the crop. It took weeks to repair it. In addition, the canals were filled with mud and sand, which required a large number of farmers to carry out cleaning work through hashar. The Tsarist government gave a special order to the court of military engineers to improve the irrigation system. 1898 N.C. M. Gelman will develop a project to build water facilities worth 130,000 rubles to irrigate 4,750 acres of land around Termez. Russian officials continued to buy

land from the territory of the oasis by officials of the Russian Empire to irrigate every tenth of the land. They have 1000 sq.m. of Surkhandarya water without large irrigation constructions. found that agricultural crops could be planted by cultivating a verst of land [8.89.]. Strengthening the garrison required additional land allocation to house troops. The Military Engineering Court spent 160-170 thousand rubles for the regulation of irrigation networks and the construction of new ones. The lands allocated by the Emir of Bukhara were leased to private entrepreneurs for a period of 27,979 rubles a year. In addition, local farmers were taxed at 1,200 to 1,500 rubles a year for using water [9.52].

The military engineering court leased land in the Termez region to entrepreneurs for 5 years and irrigated land for 10 years. One of the most important requirements for tenants who rented land where all grain crops except rice could be grown was to maintain the condition of the canals.

**Conclusions.** In conclusion, first of all, the Surkhandarya oasis was one of the first agricultural regions in the history of world civilization.

Second, the artificial irrigation system in the oasis first appeared on the banks of rivers, as well as in the low plains near springs, ditches and streams. -slowly developed.

Third, in the early years after the oasis was turned into a Russian colony, the main focus was on meeting the food needs of Russian citizens and the Russian army evacuated from Russia, and to this end some positive work was done in the irrigation system.

Fourth, under the influence of Russia's colonial policy, the products grown in the Surkhandarya oasis were sent to the center as raw materials at low prices. Based on the demand and needs for cotton, the issue of developing new lands, allocating the necessary funds for the irrigation of vast fertile lands, as well as the wider work on projects has been seriously considered. This is due to the fact that the Surkhan oasis is characterized by early planting, rapid ripening and high quality of crops compared to other lands in Turkestan and the Emirate of Bukhara.

It should be noted that the government of the Russian Empire, using local conditions to meet the demand for cotton, made extensive use of cheap, sometimes free labor, with the help of which to build artificial irrigation facilities, plans to create new cotton fields.

With the beginning of the military operations of the Russian Empire in Central Asia, the arrival of missions of representatives of the Afghan government (under pressure from the British government) to the Bukhara, Khiva and Kokand khanates increased. The Afghan government even demanded that the Emir of Bukhara hand over Karshi, Karki, Charjou, Termez and other border towns to Afghanistan [10.17.].

The turbulent political situation in Afghanistan, especially the great uprising of 1887, accelerated the construction of military fortifications in the Eastern Bukhara regions of the Russian Empire, in particular, in Karki and Termez [11.75.]. There were two reasons for the Russian Empire's interest in the Surkhandarya oasis: first, to prevent the British from entering Central Asia through Afghanistan, and second, to form a cheap market for Russian products, supplying textile factories with cotton. The Russian Empire sent its embassy-spy expeditions in 1675 to study the routes passing through the southern borders of the Bukhara Emirate [12.6-7.]. Special attention was paid to the city of Termez. The imperial government considered Termez not only as a military fortress, but also as a resettlement center from the central regions of Russia [13.59.], As well as a future military base in the direction of India [14.273.]. Therefore, in 1897, a military fortress with a total length of 10 km and a soil area of 6 hectares was built in Termez [15.236.].

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