ARAL SEA AND ECOLOGICAL CULTURE

Karakalpak State University named after Berdakh
Trainee teacher of the Faculty of Art History
Scientific supervisor: Eshmuratov Ajiniyaz Allamuratovich
2nd year student in the field of cultural studies
Zhiemuratova Jamshira Kallikhoraz douthers

Abstract:

This article discusses the current eco-culture resulting from the drying up of the Aral Sea, as well as ongoing reforms and a number of proposals for further improving the ecological situation. This article examines the problems of the Aral Sea, highlighting its causes, consequences, and ongoing efforts to address this environmental disaster.

Keywords: Aral Sea, Ecological problem, Eco-conditions, Environmental protection, Dust storms

We all know that The Aral Sea, located in Central Asia, was once one of the largest inland water bodies in the world. However, in the last few decades, it has turned from a thriving ecosystem into a desolate landscape, facing a serious ecological crisis. This article examines the problems of the Aral Sea, highlighting its causes, consequences, and ongoing efforts to address this environmental disaster.

The crisis of the Aral Sea may be primarily linked to human activity, particularly the diversion of its two major tributaries—the Amu Darya and the Syr Darya—for irrigation purposes. The construction of extensive irrigation networks for growing cotton and rice led to a significant reduction in the water inflow into the sea. In addition, inefficient irrigation practices, such as open canal systems and excessive water abstraction, further exacerbated the crisis.

Furthermore, in order to preserve the small amount of water remaining in the Aral Sea and improve the ecosystem, it is necessary to conclude more comprehensive agreements with neighboring countries, direct water flows from water-rich areas to the Aral Sea, and implement measures to prevent water evaporation and absorption into the soil before reaching crops by laying concrete on irrigated lands for agriculture. At the same time, the Aral Sea tragedy and salt storms have a negative impact on public health.

The Aral Sea crisis has had serious health and socio-economic consequences for nearby communities. The release of toxic chemicals from the seabed has led to an increase in respiratory and skin diseases. The decline of the fishing industry, which was once an important source of livelihood, has led to unemployment and economic caused difficulties. Furthermore, the loss of the sea's moderating influence on the climate has affected agricultural productivity, exacerbating food insecurity and poverty.

Mitigating the consequences of the Aral tragedy remains one of the priority directions of Uzbekistan's state policy today. At the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, large-scale measures are being implemented in this direction at both domestic and international levels. Future plans: In the next two years (2025-2026), it is planned to create another 400,000 hectares of green zones.

Recognizing the gravity of the situation, international organizations, governments, and the local community have initiated various measures to mitigate the environmental problems caused by the Aral Sea crisis. Efforts were directed toward water conservation, the introduction of efficient irrigation technologies, and the restoration of marine ecosystems. The implementation of these measures has shown positive results, such as partial restoration of the water level and improvement of water quality. However, serious challenges remain, requiring steady commitment and cooperation between stakeholders.

The Aral Sea crisis serves as a sharp reminder of the environmental devastation that can result from unstable water resource management practices. Severe environmental impacts, health risks, and socio-economic consequences in the region highlight the urgency of adopting sustainable approaches to prevent and mitigate future environmental disasters. The lessons learned from the Aral Sea crisis should guide policymakers, researchers, and communities worldwide in their efforts to protect and preserve our precious natural resources.

The Aral Sea crisis began when large-scale irrigation projects diverted water for agricultural purposes from the region's two main rivers, the Amu Darya and the Syr Darya. This turn drastically reduced the water flow into the sea and led to its gradual reduction. When the water level dropped sharply, the sea split into significantly smaller lakes, rapidly transforming the region's landscape. Reduction of water levels: Reduced water flow has resulted in the Aral Sea losing approximately 90% of its volume since the 1960s, negatively impacting its ecosystem and aquatic life. Salinization: The increasingly concentrated water became too saline, making it unsuitable for most organisms. The increase in salt content further deteriorated the soil quality in the surrounding areas. Destruction of flora and fauna: the loss of seawater led to the disappearance of various plant and animal species that once inhabited the region.

Dust storms and health risks: Agricultural chemicals and the salt-rich seabed triggered severe dust storms, causing respiratory and other health problems among the local population. Environmental campaigns: Educational programs, public engagement, and sustainable development initiatives were implemented to raise awareness of the Aral Sea crisis and promote environmentally friendly practices.

International efforts and restoration projects: Recognizing the severity of the crisis, international organizations such as the World Bank and the United Nations have supported restoration projects. The Kokaral Dam, built in 2005, helped stabilize the

water level in the northern part of the sea, which led to a certain degree of ecological recovery. Efforts are underway to promote sustainability.

In conclusion, it can be said that the Aral Sea problem has become a problem not only for us but for the entire UN. To solve this problem, we must use water networks wisely and purposefully, preserve forestry, develop non-irrigated areas, and turn them into rain-fed lands, thereby creating eco-friendly landscapes.

References :

1. Xatiboyev. Ekalogik turizm. 77-79 b
2. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev "Uzbekistan - 2030" Strategy:
3. "O'zbekiston tabiiy geografiyasi" G'ulomov. P, Hasanov. I, Qayumov. «O'ZBEKISTON GEOGRAFIYASI» fanidan Ma'ruzalar matni NUKUS-2017
4. "Suv resurslari va suvdan tejamli foydalanish" Toshkent-2014.
5. X.I. VALIYEV, SH.O. MURADOV,B.M. XOLBAYEV. "Suv resurslaridan mukammal foydalanish va muhofaza " T0SHKENT-2010.
6. ,,Markaziy Osiyo geografiyasi" O'quv uslubiy qo'llanma
7. ,,Umumiy tabiiy geografiya" O'.Q.Abdunazarov, M.T.Mirakmalov, Sh.M.Sharipov, R.A.lbragimova, A.A.Ibraimova TOSHKENT-2018