

## THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HORSE AS A VEHICLE OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF KOKON KHAN

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**Abstract:** The article analyzes the role and importance of the horse as a means of transport in the economic life of the Kokand Khanate. It is shown that the use of the horse in the military, trade, public and cultural spheres ensured the development and stability of the khanate's economy. It is also noted that the horse was important in the Kokand Khanate not only as a means of transport, but also as a socio-cultural phenomenon. The article presents new perspectives on the study of the history of the Kokand Khanate and the transport sector.

**Keywords:** Kokan Khanate, transport, horse, economic life, trade, military transport, cultural significance, Silk Road, caravans.

The Kokand Khanate played an important role in the history of Central Asia not only as a political and cultural center, but also economically. In all aspects of economic life, means of transport played a key role, and the horse was the most widely used and most efficient means of transport. The horse was important not only on the battlefield, but also in trade and population movement, and made a significant contribution to the strengthening and development of the khanate's economy. Therefore, studying the role and importance of the horse as a means of transport in the Kokand Khanate helps to better understand economic history.

The Kokand Khanate (1709–1876) was one of the most important historical states in Central Asia, occupying a significant place not only in political and cultural, but also in economic spheres. During this period, the horse was of particular importance among the means of transport, and its use in various fields ensured various aspects of the life of the khanate. The horse occupied a leading position as a means of transport in the military, economic, public and personal, cultural and traditional spheres.

In the military sphere, cavalry formed the main part of the khanate's army. Due to their ability to move quickly, they were well suited for delivering quick strikes against the enemy, guarding borders, and other maneuvers.

-In the economic and trade sphere - the Kokand Khanate developed internal and external trade, and trade relations with China, India, and Russia were established through the Silk Road.

In this process, horses served as the main means of transportation in trade caravans. At the same time, horses were also used to deliver products to local markets and agricultural areas.

-As public and personal transport - one of the most common means of transport in the khanate was horse-drawn carriages (carriages). People traveled from one city to another using these vehicles, and participated in luxurious processions at weddings and ceremonies. As personal property, horses were often considered a symbol of position and wealth.

-Cultural and traditional importance - in the khanate, the horse has a great place not only as a means of transport, but also as a cultural value. National sports games such as horse races and ukulele-kupkari were widespread, and they showed the courage and skill of the people. Horses also occupy a special place in poetry and folklore.

The Kokand Khanate had a highly developed economic activity, especially internal and external trade. Due to its location on the world's largest trade route - the Silk Road, it actively participated in international trade processes. The Khanate had extensive trade relations with China, India, Afghanistan, the Emirate of Bukhara, the Khanate of Khiva, and Russia.

Caravans formed the main transport system in these trade processes, in which horses played an important role. Each caravan consisted of dozens, even hundreds of horses, and they transported silk, cotton, thick fabrics, leather, precious stones, metal products, food products and other goods. Since horses were suitable for covering long distances, they were considered the most reliable means of transporting trade goods.

The horse as a means of transport was of great importance in the economic life of the Kokand Khanate. The horse played a central role not only for military purposes, but also in the economic, social and cultural spheres. Cavalry troops were an important means of ensuring the agility and maneuverability of the Khanate's army, and the horse was also the main means of transport for the effective implementation of internal and external trade relations.

The Kokand Khanate actively participated in international trade processes via the Silk Road, and horses in caravans were a reliable means of transporting goods over long distances. The importance of horses in delivering products to local markets and agricultural areas contributed to the stability of the economy of this period.

In public and private life, horses were widely used in carriages, trips and various ceremonies, which further strengthened the position of the horse in the daily life of the inhabitants of the Kokand Khanate. Also, the horse has a special place in national culture and traditions, and has become a symbol of the people's spirit in sports, literature and folklore.

In conclusion, it can be said that the horse gained importance not only as a means of transport, but also as a social and cultural phenomenon in the Kokan Khanate. Its role was a decisive factor in the successful development of the economic, military and cultural spheres, and it helps to shed new light on the importance of the horse in the study of the history of this period.

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