



# ANTHROPOGENIC LANDSCAPES AND SOCIAL HISTORY IN THE AMU DARYA BASIN

International Scientific and Practical Conference

28–30 May 2026

Urganch – 2026

Dear

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**We cordially invite you to the scientific assembly  
"Anthropogenic Landscapes and Social History in  
the Amu Darya Basin"  
to be held on 28–30 May 2026 at Ma'mun University.**

**Participants:** Public intellectuals, enthusiasts, journalists and reporters

**Venue:** Mamun University, Building 5, 5th floor, "Conference Hall"  
(Urgench city, Sanoatchilar Street, 9).

**Starting time:** 29 May 2026 at 10:00.

**Remote connection:** Meeting ID: 889 203 1843

 <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8892031843?omn=87419437540>

<b>26 May</b>		
<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Reception and accommodation of guests</b>	
<b>14:00-15:20</b>	<b>Mamun University, Building 5, "Zoom Meeting" Room</b>	<b>Master class for history teachers</b>
<b>15:30-17:00</b>	<b>Mamun University, Building 5, "Trading" Room</b>	<b>Master class for Master's students of the "History" educational programme</b>
<b>18:00-20:00</b>	<b>Dinner: "Sohilbay" restaurant</b>	
<b>27 May</b>		
<b>18:00-21:00</b>	<b>Excursion to "Arda Khiva" and dinner</b>	
<b>28 May</b>		
<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Gathering at Mamun University, Building 5 Khorezm region, Urgench city, Sanoatchilar Street, 9</b>	
<b>10:00-11:00</b>	<b>Qudrat Masharipov, Professor of the Department of History, Mamun University, DSc.</b>	<b>Introductory tour of the "Dev solgan qal'a" (Giant-built fortress)</b>
<b>12:35-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch at the "Khumbuztepa" archaeological site</b>	
<b>14:00-14:30</b>	<b>Bahrom Sa'dullayev, Senior Researcher, Ma'mun Academy, PhD</b>	<b>The Khumbuztepa site: history, research and results</b>
<b>14:30-15:00</b>	<b>Qudrat Masharipov, Professor of the Department of History, Mamun University, DSc.</b>	<b>Khumbuztepa in the system of world civilisation</b>
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	<b>Shokhrukhmirzo Ismailov, Associate Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, PhD..</b>	<b>A new coin hoard of the Mamunid Khwarazmshahs</b>

<p><b>15:30-16:00</b></p>	<p><b>Sadokat Matkarimova,</b>  Head of the Department of  History, Ma'mun  University, DSc, Professor.</p>	<p><b>The water cult in the social history of  the Amu Darya basin: legends,  rituals and the interpretation of  artistic symbols</b></p>
<p><b>16:00-17:00</b></p>	<p><b>Bahrom Sa'dullayev,</b>  Senior Researcher, Ma'mun  Academy, PhD.</p> <p><b>Shikhnazar Rakhimov,</b>  Associate Professor of the  Department of History,  Ma'mun University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>Master class on conducting  archaeological research</b></p>
<p><b>17:00-18:00</b></p>	<p><b>Dinner</b></p>	
<p><b>18:00-19:30</b></p>	<p><b>Cultural recreation  (performances of folk bakhshis and khalfas: songs and melodies)</b></p>	
<p><b>19:30-21:00</b></p>	<p><b>Return from Khazarasp to Urgench</b></p>	

## 29 MAY

Registration of conference participants: 09:00 – 10:00.

The conference begins its work at 10:00 in the "Conference Hall", Ma'mun University, Building 5, 5th floor

<b>10:00-10:10</b>	<b>Arslonbek Nurjonov, Founder of Mamun University</b>	<b>Opening address</b>
<b>10:10-10:20</b>	<b>Sardorbek Sharifzoda, Acting Rector of Ma'mun University</b>	<b>Welcoming address</b>
<b>10:20-10:40</b>	<b>Dr Camille Rhoné-Quer, Assistant professor, HDR, Aix-Marseille University, IREMAM</b>	<b>Greetings &amp; Mobilizing 19th c. travelogues to write an environmental history of the Amu Darya in the Middle Ages: contributions and precautions</b>
<b>10:40-11:00</b>	<b>Adham Ashirov, Head of the "Ethnology and Anthropology" Centre, Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor.</b>	<b>Water-related culture and values of the Uzbek people</b>
<b>11:00-11:20</b>	<b>Dr Simone Mantellini, Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna</b>	<b>Shaping Water, Shaping Territory: The Hydraulic History of Samarkand, Uzbekistan</b>
<b>11:20-11:40</b>	<b>Sadokat Matkarimova, Head of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, DSc, Professor</b>	<b>Eco-cultural transformation in the anthropogenic landscapes of the Amu Darya basin: ritual and social syncretism of national cuisine and the art of dance</b>
<b>11:40-12:00</b>	<b>Dr Johanna Lhuillier, Researcher, Lab. Archéorient, UMR 5133, CNRS, Lyon</b>	<b>Early Iron Age Communities in the Upper Amu Darya Region: Adaptation Strategies and Interactions with the Environment</b>

12:00-12:20	<b>Shodmon Vohidov,</b> Vice-Rector for Scientific and Innovation Affairs of the Tajikistan Pedagogical Institute in Panjikent, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor.	<b>The history of irrigation in ancient Khwarazm: the institution of the mirab</b>
12:20-12:40	<b>Dr Roberto Arciero,</b> Associate Researcher, Lab. Archéorient, UMR 5133, CNRS, Lyon	<b>Understanding Water Flow in the Pashkurt Valley: Preliminary result of an Uzbek Irrigation Landscape</b>
12:40-13:00	<b>Dr Andrea Zinzani,</b> Geography Unit, Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna	<b>Hydrosocial territories in transformation: mountain waters, the state and local communities in agalik, Uzbekistan</b>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>SECTION 1</b>	<b>Moderator Sadokat Matkarimova</b>	
14:00-14:20	<b>Shefaattin Deniz,</b> Associate Professor, Institute of Turkic Studies, Istanbul University.	<b>Relations between the Ottoman Empire and the Khans of Khiva in the 18th century</b>
14:20-14:40	<b>Jahongir Ergashev,</b> Professor of Bukhara State University, DSc.	<b>"The Turkestan Collection" as a source for studying the history of the waterways of the Turkestan region</b>
14:40-15:00	<b>Madatbay Davletiyarov,</b> Karakalpakstan Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan	<b>The shajara (genealogy) as an element of the historical memory of the Karakalpaks</b>
15:00-15:20	<b>Saparbay Navruzov,</b> Associate Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, Candidate of Historical Sciences.	<b>Khorezm-style land cultivation, or the concerns of the Khorezm farmer</b>

15:20-15:40	<b>Ulugbek Shapulatov,</b> Leading Researcher, Research Centre of Termez State University, PhD	<b>Formation of Bronze Age Irrigation Systems in the Surkhan Oasis: The Case of the Sapalli Culture</b>
15:40-16:00	<b>Quanishbek Turekeev,</b> Associate Professor of the Department of "History and Social Sciences", University of Innovative Technologies, PhD.	<b>The "tusao' kesio'" (untying of the legs) ritual in Karakalpak ethnoculture (based on the example of the Karakalpaks of Navoi and Samarkand</b>
16:00-16:20	<b>Niyoz Rashidov,</b> Head of Department, Ya. G'ulomov Samarkand Institute of Archaeology, Cultural Heritage Agency, PhD.	<b>Craniological research in physical anthropology and the interpretation of the question of race</b>
16:20-16:40	<b>Galiya Kambarbekova,</b> Professor, Department of the Near East and South Asia, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University	<b>Historical and source-study significance of toponyms and hydronyms in the "Masir-i Bukhara" by Mir Izzatullah</b>
16:40-17:00	<b>Jo'rabek Raximberganov,</b> Senior Lecturer of the Department of History, Ma'mun University	<b>Legal and economic foundations of the management of river transport and infrastructure in the Amu Darya basin at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries</b>
<b>SECTION 2</b>	<b>Moderator Sanjarbek Davletov</b>	
14:00-14:20	<b>Akira Ueda,</b> Overseas Research Fellow Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO	<b>Canal Cleaning in Soviet Uzbekistan: Change and Continuity</b>
14:00-14:20	<b>Sanjarbek Davletov,</b> Professor of the Department of History, Mamun University	<b>Water resources management in Uzbekistan: national and regional factors</b>
14:20-14:40	<b>Nazokat Matkarimova,</b> Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, PhD.	<b>Historical-ethnographic interpretation of the water cult in G. P. Snesev's work "Under the Sky of Khorezm"</b>

14:40-15:00	<p><b>Feruzjon Subxonov,</b> Senior Researcher, Samarkand Institute of Archaeology, Cultural Heritage Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan. PhD.</p>	<p><b>Issues of geographical reconstruction of religious-building architecture in Central Asia: interpretation of restoration hypotheses and problems</b></p>
15:00-15:20	<p><b>Fazliddin Jumaniyozov,</b> Associate Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>The Formation of the Amu Darya Tributaries as Water Resources in the Khorezm Oasis and Their Role in the Development of Society.</b></p>
15:20-15:40	<p><b>Hikmatulla Hoshimov,</b> Senior Researcher, Samarkand Archaeological Institute, Cultural Heritage Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan.</p>	<p><b>The Oyoqog'itma site: Kelteminar culture and anthropogenic landscapes</b></p>
15:40-16:00	<p><b>Ismoil Nurmetov,</b> Associate Professor, Urgench State University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>Water resources management in Uzbekistan: national and regional factors</b></p>
16:00-16:20	<p><b>Omonboy Matkurbonov,</b> Associate Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>History of service facilities along the Lower Amu Darya River (Based on the materials of the Khorezm Archaeological and Ethnographic Expedition)</b></p>
16:20-16:40	<p><b>Umida Tadjiyeva,</b> Senior Lecturer at the Academic Lyceum of Urgench State University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>Beliefs of the inhabitants of the Khorezm oasis related to the water faith</b></p>
16:40-17:00	<p><b>Doniyor Bekchanov,</b> Associate Professor of the Department of History, Ma'mun University, PhD.</p>	<p><b>Khudoybergan Devonov — the reflection of the way of life and ethnoculture of the population of the Khorezm oasis in film and photographic materials</b></p>
17:00-17:30	<p><b>Conference closing</b></p>	
18:00-20:00	<p><b>Dinner</b></p>	