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## Some aspects of the Caspian policy of Peter I: based on the expedition in the first quarter of the 18th century

It is important to study the historical and geographical issues of the Caspian Sea, whose name underwent various changes in different periods of history due to the historical and political situation of that time. The article is written based on Russian, Kazakhstan and foreign scientific works. The purpose and objectives of the research is to study the historical significance of the expeditions organized by Peter I for the purpose of research and development of the Caspian Sea basin at the beginning of the 18th century in the collection of scientific data about the sea. Analyzing data on the history of the sea, the name of the sea; Conducting scientific analysis of the records of Russian travelers and scientists found in archive funds on the historical, geographical and economic features of the sea. The Caspian Sea and its historical and geographical issues have been the subject of historical research of many travelers, historians, geographers and scientists since ancient times. The authors make scientific conclusions by systematizing a lot of cartographic materials and data written on this issue, focusing on the expeditions organized along the Caspian Sea during the period of Peter I.

*Keywords:* Map of the Caspian Sea, Caspian Sea, historical geography, historical map, expeditions of Peter I, history, Caspian politics.

### Introduction

Historical and geographical information about the Caspian Sea is very relevant in the light of international interdisciplinary research. The Caspian, washing the shores of five coastal states (Russia — in the west and north-west; Kazakhstan — in the north, north-east and east; Azerbaijan — in the south-west; Iran — in the south; Turkmenistan — in the southeast), attracts researchers in the field of geopolitics, history, ecology, hydrology, geography, biology. So, among the significant issues of this topic is the history of the creation of nautical charts, as well as the name of the sea, which has undergone many changes throughout its history. In addition to this, it is important for research to understand the role of expeditions organized in the 17th-18th centuries.

The Caspian Sea, as a body of water, is closed with brackish water characteristics and from time immemorial has been considered a sea due to its size and salinity. This prehistoric giant water basin was formed 600–650 million years ago, united the Southern Ocean with the Aral, Black and Mediterranean Seas. In the north, this ancient Mediterranean ocean which was called the Tethys, reached the latitude of Kazan. Approximately 50 million years ago, there was a period when the Tethys Ocean was connected to the vast West Siberian Sea and the Northern Ocean through the wide Turgai Strait. It is this connection that the modern Caspian owes to the appearance of such exotic animals as seals [1; 3]. Subsequently, the Caspian was connected to the Black Sea, and it is known that “along the Uzboy, the waters of Central Asia poured into it” [2; 4].

The boundaries of the Caspian Sea “in the north extended to the rivers Northern Dvina and Pechora, in the northeast with the Urals, in the east — the Aral Sea, in the southwest with the rivers of the Black Sea slope, in the west — with the swimming pool of the river Don and with a swimming pool of the river Dnieper, in the north-west — with the swimming pool of the river Neva” [3; 6].

The etymology of the word “Caspian” is associated with the name of the ancient tribes “Caspians” who lived from the 1st century B.C. on the right bank of the Kura River. In ancient sources, in particular Herodotus, Strabo and others, there is a mention of the Caspian tribe, testifying to their active participation in various economic, political and socio-cultural processes of the ancient world. Information about the Caspians was also found in the ancient Eastern texts of the Achaeminid time [4; 217–229].

The development of new lands by Europeans, which began at the end of the 15th century with the discovery of the American continent by Christopher Columbus, also took place in the Russian state, which gradually acquired the features of an imperial structure. To implement its own imperial policy, Russia did

not follow the path of acquiring colonies like the European talassocratic powers, which used methods of brutal extermination of local peoples and the seizure of material resources. A major politician of his time, who turned Russia into an empire, Peter I outlined new directions for moving to the East, taking into account the specifics of the region. G.G. Kornoukhova noted that, "Russia began to conduct its active policy in the Caspian region since the time of Peter I, who assumed that in the future it would serve as a profitable for the Russian treasury, as a transit route for the exchange of goods between India and Europe. As it is known, after the death of Peter I, Russia was unable to retain the lands he had conquered on the Persian coast of the Caspian Sea, but in the following decades of the 18th century it continued its penetration into Transcaucasia, gaining a foothold there in the first third of the 19th century» [5; 670].

In connection with the development of the eastern lands the expeditions organized by Peter I in the first half of the 18th century provided an opportunity for a step-by-step study of this territory as an introduction into scientific circulation of data on the Caspian Sea based on the research of professional cartographers. Research, which began to be actively carried out in the 17th-18th centuries, became an event for Russia, caused by the needs of life from the point of view of the Russian state. It should be noted that the intensification of the activities of the Russian government was also caused by the desire of the Persian state, which has its own sovereign ambitions to establish control over the Caspian and the lands adjacent to the sea, which required a resolution of this situation.

#### *Materials and methods*

During the study of the topic, special attention was paid to the consideration of the problems associated with historical events and the collection of data on the Caspian Sea in their relationship and interdependence. Thus, in the discussion of the relevance of the work on drawing up a map of the Caspian Sea, it was necessary to carry out a systematic analysis of the cartographic data. We also used a chronological method with the aim of a step-by-step description of the scientific topic under consideration, its conclusions and different points of view.

As a result of the application of the historical-comparative method, it was possible to optimally use and compare the works of researchers of the Caspian Sea necessary for our topic in the period of antiquity, the Middle Ages and modern history. The method of problem analysis contributed to the comprehension of the presented material within the scale of the research work under study.

An essential feature of this study is the availability of information about expeditions that studied the Caspian Sea, among which an important component is the material of the expeditionary work organized under Peter the Great.

One of the fundamental works for the study is the data on the confluence of the Amu Darya river into the Caspian through the Uzboy by the Azerbaijani scientists Z.M. Buniyatov and N.M. Velikhanova in the article "The Caspian Sea in Arab Sources", which was published in the Soviet period and still has not lost its historical value [6; 129].

In addition, the necessary information was provided by the naval specialist M.I. Tsiporukha, who considered the creation of a sea map in his research [7; 88–93]. It is also necessary to note the works of the Russian historian I.V. Kurukin [8; 381], M.A. Mirzoev [9; 183], Kazakh local historian A. Edilkhan [10; 4], whose works made up the scientific database of our work. Moreover, the research materials were based on printed publications, monographic research papers and data available on specialized resources on the Internet.

#### *Discussion*

Information about the Caspian Sea is found in the writings of many travelers and researchers since ancient times, but each of them has different interpretations of the name of the sea, sources, about the peoples inhabiting this territory. The problem of the name of the sea was considered only partially, and has not yet become a special object of research in post-Soviet historical science. The main reasons for this include the incomplete systematization of sources and the historiography of works related to the name of the Caspian Sea, the inconsistency of information transmitted in historical sources, the absence of a scientifically grounded map of the water area until the first quarter of the 18th century, etc.

The origin of the name "Caspian" in the encyclopedic reference book "History of Kazakhstan" published in 2006 is associated with the Caspian tribe (Caspians) that inhabited this coast in ancient times. There we also find the following information: "The Kaspi is one of the most ancient Saka tribes inhabiting the shores of the Caspian Sea. The name "Caspian" first appears in the work of Herodotus "History" (5th centu-

ry BC)... Later (up to the 1st century B.C.) the Caspians were displaced by the Medes, Albanian, Hunnic, Turkic and other tribes. According to ancient authors (Herodotus, Strabo, Claudius, and Ptolemy), at the end of the 1st millennium B.C. the Caspians inhabited the southwestern and western coast of the modern Caspian Sea [11; 314].

According to ancient, antique and medieval sources, the position and coastal outlines of the Caspian Sea are very schematic. Throughout the centuries BC and up to the Renaissance, geographers' ideas about the shape of our planet were very vague and approximate. Therefore, according to a number of maps, it is not possible to judge the correctness of the outlines and other characteristics of the Caspian Sea. The actual outlines of the shores of the Caspian Sea, even the existence of the Caspian as a separate sea, were not entirely clear for the researchers of the past centuries. Thus, sometimes, the Caspian was shown round (among the Arabs), more often oblong in parallel, and only from the end of the 12th century. The Caspian is depicted as elongated from north to south. Some scientists considered the Caspian to be a closed sea (lake), others imagined it to be a bay of the ocean, while some geographers could not find its beginning or end. There are ideas about the existence of two Caspian seas: one closed, and the other connected with the Northern Ocean. There is practically no mention of the existence of the Aral Sea.

As knowledge was gradually replenished in geography with a number of new proven and firmly established provisions, data on the Caspian Sea was also accumulated. This made it possible to draw up more accurate, although still far from perfect, maps. With the accumulation of this geographical material, the Caspian Sea begins to be depicted on maps as a separate basin. This happened under the influence of Herodotus and Ptolemy, who brought information about the sea as a closed basin, nevertheless, in his work N.M. Knipovich (1915) writes: "It was only in the 13th century that the connection between the studied reservoir and the ocean finally disappeared on European maps" [12; 17-18].

One of the first information about the Caspian Sea was given in the ancient Iranian sacred book "Avesta". In this book, three thousand years ago, the Caspian Sea was called Vorukash, which meant "widely indented", "having wide openings", "bays" [13; 200]. The proximity of the Caspian Sea to Iran and the presence on its shores of large peninsulas such as Karabugaz and Mangistau indicate that the name Vorukash is directly related to the Caspian Sea. According to some assumptions, the name Vorukash may be the name of the Aral Sea or Lake Balkhash.

The Caspian Sea has also been written by ancient authors. Thus, in describing the outlines of the Earth (between the 7th and 12th centuries B.C.), Homer represented it as a round shield, which along the edges was washed by "a quietly flowing, deep universal river — the Ocean". In the west were located "Pillars of Hercules, in the east — Colchis, and even further there was the Pond of the Sun", which most likely could only be the Caspian Sea. After the heroic epic of Homer, the "Land Description" of Hecateus of Miletus, and a contemporary of the Persian king Darius I, appeared. According to Hecateus, the world was likened to a disk, on which the inhabited land, divided by the seas, was represented as a double island. In the East of the Black Sea, instead of the "Pond of the Sun" (the Caspian Sea), Hecateus places a new sea, named "Girkan" after the area of Girkania [9; 5-6].

A description of the Caspian Sea is also given in the writings of Herodotus (5th century B.C.). Herodotus in his work "History" tells about the administrative division of Persia and when, he speaks about the ancient peoples who inhabited the western coast of the sea, he writes about the Caspian Sea as follows: "The Caspian Sea is a closed body of water, not connected with any other sea... The Caspian Sea is a sea of a very special kind. Its length is fifteen days (1600 km — auth.) on the ridge of the ship, and its width at its widest point is eight days. It borders on the Caucasus Range, the most extensive and highest of all mountain ranges, in the west" [14, 75-76]. Therefore, Herodotus drew attention to the fact that the Caspian is isolated from the oceans.

On the map of Claudius Ptolemy, who lived in the 2nd century B.C., the Caspian Sea is named Hyrcanus (in Fig. 1), which is designated as a closed body of water that does not connect with any ocean.

In antiquity, the Caspian Sea was also called the Girkan Sea, along the river and the Gürgen region on the southeastern coast (among the Arabs, the Djurdjan Sea); Medieval Arab geographers have the Khorasan Sea, by the name of the Iranian province.

Turks called Ak-Deniz "white sea", Turkmens called Kökküz "green (blue) lake" ("kyuz" literally "eye"), in Central Asia the name "Aydarkhan deniz" also existed; V.V. Radlov gave another name "Kuzgyn-deniz" in his notes ("Kuzgyn" is associated with the word "Raven") [16; 182]. The famous orientalist V.V. Bartold etymologized from the Iranian "Varkani" "wolf" (country).

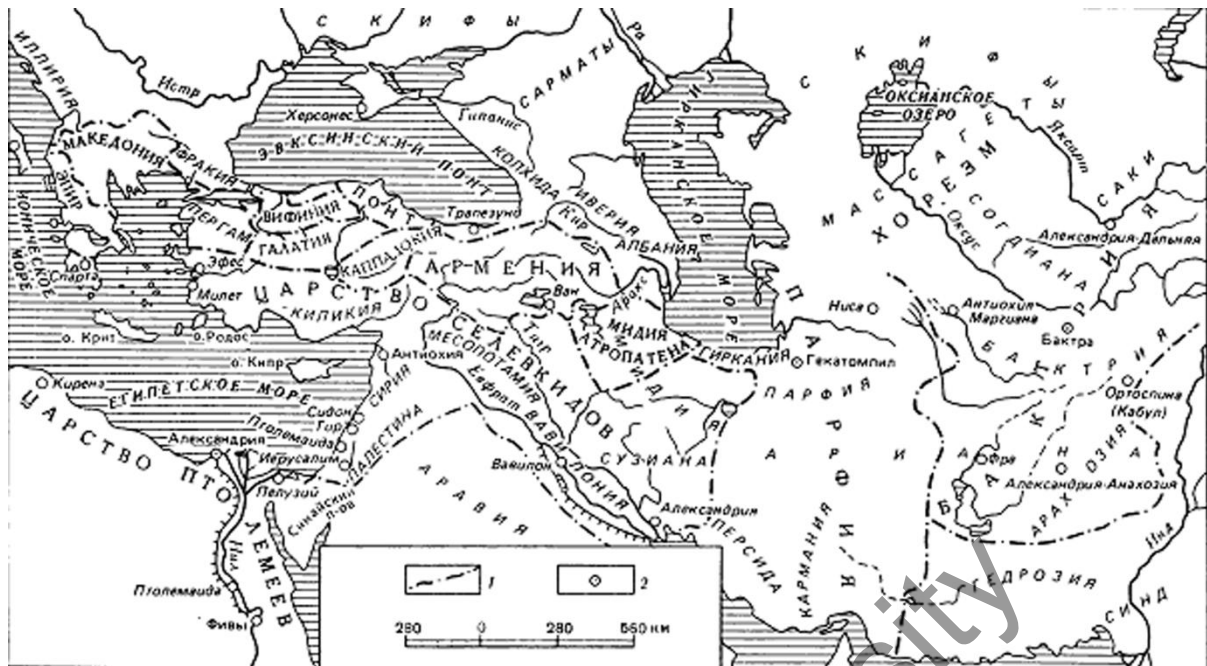


Fig. 1. Ptolemy's geographical map of the ancient world [15; 148].

In the book “Works on Historical Geography” by V.V. Bartold there is the following mention of the Caspian Sea: “Bahr al-Khazar” Sea of Khazars” (Persian Daryâ-i-Khazarân) — this is how most Arab geographers call the Caspian Sea, after the Khazar people, which in the best period of Arabic geographical literature, in the 4th / 9th century, belonged to the region on the northern coast of this sea with the important trading city of Itil (not far from the mouth of the Volga). Less commonly, this name denotes the Black Sea with Meotida (Ibn Khordadbeh, who followed him Kudama and Mas’udi) — probably because the Khazar power extended to part of the Crimean peninsula. Outside the Muslim world, this expression did not seem to be used.

In the reports of Arab and Persian historians of the 9th-10th centuries, there is information that the Russians sailed across the Caspian Sea to the shores of Iran. The ancient Russian name of the Caspian Sea — “Khvalymskoe (variants: Khvalisskoe, Khvalynskoe) sea” — undoubtedly goes back to the name of the country Khorezm, although the Arabs and Persians always call only the Aral Sea “lake (or “sea”) of Khorezm” [17; 367]. The name of the Khopuzh Sea (in the Life of Alexander Nevsky) is also interesting.

In the book “Voyage across the Three Seas” written in the 15th century by the famous Russian traveler Afanasy Nikitin, the Caspian is one of the three seas. A. Nikitin named the sea Derbent. During his trip A. Nikitin sailed on it and visited Derbent, Shemakha and Baku. From here he got to Iran and from there to India. A. Nikitin collected very valuable and interesting material about the nature of the Caspian Sea and about the peoples living on its shores. M. Fasmer revealed this name as a tracing of the same “Derbent” with the etymology of the name of the city: Iranian “gate”, ancient Turkic — kapug “gate”, Chagatai “door” [16; 182].

In Muslim literature, the Caspian Sea, in addition to the above, is called according to other areas located on its coast: “Djurdjan Sea” (corresponds to the “Hyrcanian Sea” of the ancients), “Abeskun Sea” (according to the port city at the mouth of the Gurgun), “Tabaristan Sea” (or “Mazandaran”), “Sea of Deilem”, “Sea of Gilan”, later (from the time of Mongol rule) also “Sea of Shirvan” and “Sea of Baku” (this is the last designation, and moreover, “Sea of Sarai”, in the Middle Ages found in European sources); the name Bahr al-Kulzum, referring, in fact, to the Red Sea, is also often transferred to the Caspian Sea. In Turkish literature, in addition to reported, there are expressions “Bahr-i guzz” (named after the famous nomadic people, ancestor of the Turkmens and Ottomans) and “Ak-Deniz” (more often used for the Mediterranean)” [17; 367].

A. Mohammed Haydar Dulati (16th century) writes about the sea as the “Kulzum Sea” in his works [18; 558]. The Arab traveler Abu-Ishak-Ibrahim-ibn Muhammad al-Farisi al-Istakhri in his book “Kitabu mesalik-il-memalik” (Book of Ways and States), published in 951, described and made a map of the lands of the “Khazar Sea (Caspian Sea, auth.)”. He also described the rivers Kura, Rasu (Yaik, Yem), Tabaristan, Zhurzhan (Khorasan provinces), Siyahkukh (Karatau-Mangystau) surrounding the Caspian Sea [19; 182].

The map of the Caspian Sea was compiled in 1367 by other famous travelers — (Venetian cartographers) Brothers Francis and Dominic Pizzigani. The map was reproduced in the book “Peripheral of the Caspian Sea according to the maps of the 14th century, F. Bruna” The map shows the Western Georgian provinces Zequa (Djiketi), Auogaxia (Abkhazia) and Suania (Svaneti), localized in the mountains. Almost the same place names are recorded along the Black Sea as on the Vesconte map [20] (Periplus of the Caspian Sea according to maps of the 14th century).

Then, in 1459, a detailed map of the Mangyshlak peninsula was given by the Venetian monk Fra Mauro.

In 1558, the explorer and navigator E. Jenkinson described the exploration of the Caspian coast: “On August 21 we passed a bay 6 leagues wide and came up to the spit, on the southeastern side of which there were two islands, very visible from the sea. Behind this slanting bank it sloped to the northeast, forming another bay, into which the large river Emba (Yem) flows” [8; 4].

### Results

From the middle of the 14th century the study and purposeful development of the northern coast of the Caspian Sea by the Moscow state begins. After the conquest of the Kazan and Astrakhan khanates by Ivan the Terrible, Russian ambassadors began to visit Iran, Khiva and Bukhara across the Caspian Sea. Russian merchants also established active trade on the eastern coast of the Caspian. In those days, the main center of trade was the port of Tyub-Karagan on the Mangyshlak peninsula. Thus, the study of the Caspian Sea by Russia began in the Middle Ages [12; 43].

By decree of the tsar in 1627, on the basis of previously collected drawing materials, the “Book of the Big Drawing” was compiled. The “Book...” is quite informative in terms of the historical geography of Eurasia. It indicates the Khvalynskoe (Caspian, auth.) Sea, the Blue (Aral) sea, provides information about the distances between geographical objects, about the Yaik river (Ural — auth.), which “fell into the Khvalimskoe (Caspian, auth.) Sea” [21].

Russian sea expeditions to the eastern coast of the Caspian began in the first quarter of the 17th century and were associated with the intensification of the policy of Peter I in the Caspian region as a whole [22; 44]. In particular, this is due to the following reasons:

1. The transformation of Russia into an empire required new lands, resources, and the most promising directions and opportunities opened up in Central Asia and the Caucasus. To achieve this goal, Peter I hastened to conclude an agreement with Persia, another “strong” state for that period, which also intended to rule in the Caspian region. Although in the 18th-19th centuries a number of agreements and treaties were signed between the two countries (St. Petersburg 1723, Rasht 1729, Gulistan 1813, Turkmenchay 1828), none of them fixed the status of a “lake” or the “seas” of the Caspian, and the sea was considered “common water” without delimitation. According to the adopted Russian-Persian agreements, the Russian Empire received the right to “forever” maintain a fleet in the Caspian Sea, and Persia was only allowed the right to maintain merchant ships at sea [23; 247]. In connection with the outlined circumstances, the Russian Empire decided to take its first steps in strengthening its positions in the Caspian region.

2. At the same time, militarily and technically, the rapidly developing states of Western Europe were actively conquering and colonizing countries located thousands of miles from the metropolises. It was obvious that the British Empire, which began the colonization of India in Asia in the 17th century (1607), gradually began to orient itself more purposefully in its advance towards Central Asia and the Caucasus.

Russia, which received imperial status, as a result of the reforms of Peter I in various fields aimed at developing the country in a European style, began to pursue the same active colonial policy in foreign policy as the European powers. The medieval, militarily weak states of the Caucasus and the Central Asian khanates adjacent to the frontier of Russia will not be able to resist external threats. And since most of the states of the Caucasus and Central Asia are located around the Caspian Sea, it was clear that the Caspian Sea would also fall under the sphere of influence of one or another powerful state. So Peter I, explaining the importance of the Caspian Sea, said: “Our interests do not at all allow any other power, no matter who it is, to establish itself in the Caspian Sea” [24; 186].

At the end of the 17th — beginning of the 18th centuries, Russia became significantly stronger both in socio-economic and political terms, its international authority increased.

In November 1722, by order of the tsar, a military port was built in Astrakhan, which made it possible to expand the possibilities of navigation along the Volga and the Caspian. Peter I, realizing the political and

economic significance of the Caspian, it was here that he “saw the true focus or knot of the entire East” [25; 62].

In 1722–1723, as a result of the Persian campaign of Peter I, the Caspian Sea passed into the jurisdiction of the Russian state. On September 12, 1723, Persia was forced to transfer “the cities of Derbent, Baku, as well as the Gilan, Mazandaran and Astrabad provinces, thereby recognizing the dominant position of Russia in the issue of the right of military navigation in the Caspian Sea” [26].

Thus, the allied treaty between Iran and Russia of 1723 determined the issue of Iran's territorial sovereignty in the Caspian. This issue was further strengthened by the Iranian-Soviet Memorandum signed in 1962 by the Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Aram and the Soviet ambassador to Tehran Nikolai Pegov. In the first document, Iran made concessions to Russia on the length of the sea. The agreements, according to which in 1725, 1732, 1813, 1828, 1881, 1893, 1921, 1954 and 1957, the Iranian-Russian and subsequently Iranian-Soviet land borders were established, concern the Caspian only in the sense of designating points on the shores of the sea, on which the eastern land borders of the two countries and the western ends. None of the agreements stipulated the provision of any part of the sea to Iran until the Aram-Pegov Memorandum was signed in 1762 [27].

So, at the end of the 18th century, the Russian state, following the path of transformation into a developed European empire, began to pay special attention to the study of the Caspian Sea. In this period (the last decade of the 17th century), even at the initial stage of his reign, Tsar Peter I strove to implement the idea of his father, Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich “to conduct ships and navigational routes in the Caspian Sea”. Peter I, continuing his policy, said with confidence that in this way the way to Central Asia and Iran would be opened.

In 1699, Peter I sent an expedition led by Captain E. Meyer to draw up a general map of the Caspian Sea. In 1703, he completed work on the map, but it was never published. However, the description of the Caspian Sea became known in Europe and influenced European cartography. So, according to academician L.S. Berg, “the outline of the Caspian Sea is acquiring much more regular forms, moreover, before acquaintance with the filming of 1715 and 1719–1720” [28].

Another interesting fact is noted by I.V. Kurukin, so even on European maps of the 16th-17th centuries, the Amu Darya flowed into the Caspian Sea. In 1714, Khoja Nefis from the Mangyshlak peninsula, arriving in St. Petersburg, asked the tsar to turn the Amu Darya, telling that earlier this river flowed into the Caspian Sea, and that the Khivans allegedly blocked the river with a dam. This story aroused the interest of Peter I, who believed that “the proposal to turn the course of the great Central Asian river meant, first of all, the opportunity to establish unhindered” communication “with distant India” [8; 25].

More complete, accurate maps of the Caspian Sea we are studying appeared only after the research work of the expeditions of A. Bekovich-Cherkassky (1715), K. Verdun and F. Saimonov (1720). Expeditions of Russian scientists and travelers are organized not only for research purposes, in the course of their work, albeit indirectly, they helped to determine and approve the status of the sea.

In May 1714, Peter I ordered the captain-lieutenant of the Preobrazhensky Guards Regiment A. Bekovich-Cherkassky (Kabardian by origin) to draw up a new map of the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea and precisely indicate on it the location of the Amu Darya estuary (according to the assumption of most geographers of that era, it fell into Caspian). And already on September 1, 1714, A. Bekovich-Cherkassky reported from Astrakhan that he “... inquired through the inhabitants of Astrakhan about the Darya River — where it flows from, where it falls with its mouth. I found such people who know this river, they call the Amu Darya, they say that a considerable river, taken by its top from India, flows through the Bukhara land and Khiva, falls into a lake called the Aral Sea, which has a distance of 14 days from the Caspian Sea; others say that there is a small channel from the lake into the Caspian Sea, only there is no such person who has seen” [7; 89].

It should be noted that the expedition of Bekovich-Cherkovskiy in 1714-1715 made a significant contribution to the description of the northern and eastern coasts of the Caspian Sea. The expedition also found out that the Amu Darya flows into the Aral Sea, and not into the Caspian.

On June 17, 1717, during Peter I's stay in France, he met with the royal geographer G. Delisle, to whom he showed handwritten maps based on the results of Russian research. G. Delisle noted the importance of information, since there have never been accurate maps of the area and outlines of the Caspian Sea. In addition, the Europeans received, as M.I. Tsiporukha “information about both the Kara-Bogaz-Gol Bay and the ancient channel of the Amu Darya” [7; 90].

Peter I did not give up on further study of the Caspian Sea. In 1719, another scientific expedition was organized to draw up a general map of the Caspian Sea and refine its western part. The expedition was headed by Lieutenant Commander Karl van Verden, the composition also included naval officers Lieutenant F. Soymonov, junior lieutenants P. Doroshenko, G. Zolotarev and others. Karl Verden was instructed to map the western part of the Caspian Sea from the mouth of the Volga to Astrabad, then to the Kura River and draw up a general map of the Caspian Sea by re-checking the description of the previously explored east coast. About the expedition, it is mentioned in the work of Academician G.F. Miller, published in 1765: “In 1719 January 8 days (January 8 — author), the entire commission was determined by Lieutenant Fedor Soimonov, who both served somewhat to serve under their own imperial on a military ship called Ingermoland, on which His Majesty usually delighted to ride, and through that they got the opportunity to win special praise from the Sovereign, for their faithfulness and skill..... by which this description of the western coast of the Caspian Sea continued... 719 (1719-auth.) years of flight to the Kura River, and on another summer, that is, to the Astrabad Bay, and back to Astrakhan too...” [29; 50–51].

In 1720, a drawing of the map was applied to a copper plate and is known as the “Van Verden Map” (Fig. 2).

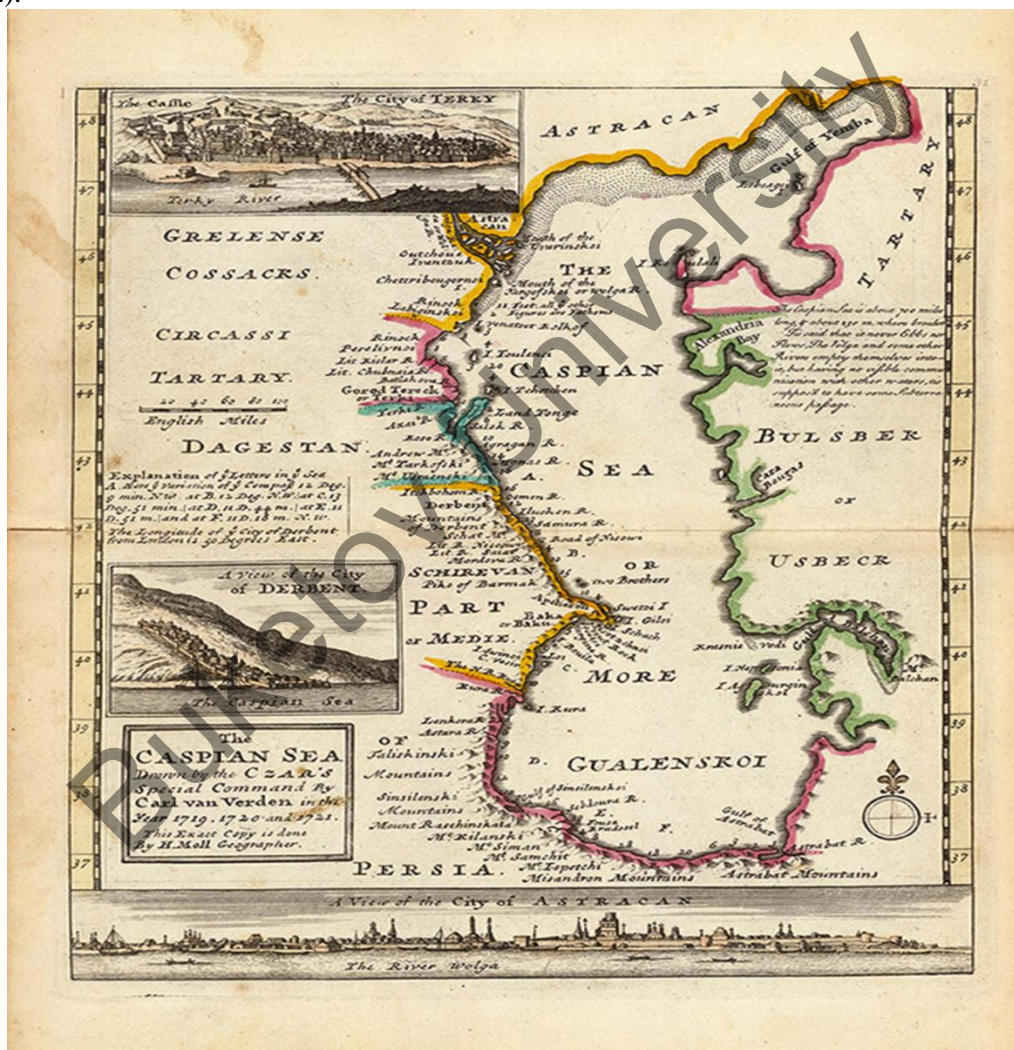


Fig. 2. “Painting of a flat Caspian sea” — General map of the Caspian Sea, Karl van Verden in 1719–1721 on the personal instructions of the Emperor Peter the Great [30; 99].

Moreover, in 1721, on behalf of Peter I, the librarian I.D. Schumacher presented a new map of the Caspian Sea to the Academy of Sciences in Paris. The map made a great impression on French scientists: “Everyone was amazed, because on the map, contrary to the opinions of all geographers, the Caspian Sea had a completely different shape” [30; 100].

### Conclusion

The description of the Caspian Sea, its names, attempts to fix its outlines can be traced in the cartographic works of antiquity and the Middle Ages, but the beginning of its scientific research and state support for the implementation of mapping falls on the end of the 18th — beginning of the 19th century. Although interest in the Caspian Sea is found in the works of ancient authors, medieval scholars of Arab, Iranian, Turkic origin, the history of the Caspian has not previously been systematically studied. Based on the presented data on the study of the Caspian Sea, the main provisions and conclusions should be highlighted:

1. Ancient historians (Herodotus, Ptolemy, Eratosthenes, Strabo, etc.) collected information based on the memories of travelers, merchants, etc., that is, from the lips of third parties who told stories about the Caspian Sea and, ancient authors made approximate sea maps... Undoubtedly, obtaining data on the Caspian Sea as the only international sea trade transit at that time was due to the influence of the Great Silk Road, covering the territory from Ancient China to Italy. This is evidenced by the beginning of a chapter related to the Caspian Sea in the writings of Herodotus “according to the stories of some”.

2. The diversity of the names of the sea was influenced primarily by the presence on the coast of the Caspian Sea of peoples professing different religions and speaking different languages. The sea “inherited” from itself the names of states, principalities, khanates and cities located on the Caspian coast. Sometimes, due to incorrect pronunciation or incorrect spelling of previous names, many interpretations arose, which in historical sources are found in the most contradictory information. Although, to a large extent, an attempt to study the history of the sea, the life and life of the peoples inhabiting it originates in the studies of the Greek logographers of the ancient world, nevertheless, the accumulation of basic valuable information about the sea dates back to the Middle Ages. Scientific works of Muslim authors were devoted to the cartographic problems associated with the Caspian Sea and ideas about its coast in historical geography.

3. Since the modern era (middle of the 17th century), the study of the Caspian has acquired a scientific research character. The formation of the Russian state as an imperial state required intensive development of the territories surrounding it. As a result of the actions taken in this direction, the Caspian Sea was mapped by Peter the Great in the first quarter of the 18th century and subsequently the Russian State established its influence on the Caspian Sea.

Thus, the study of the Caspian Sea was scientifically substantiated in the Russian written information and cartographic materials of the expeditions of Peter I at the beginning of the 18th century. Planned and comprehensive studies of the Caspian Sea are starting from this period.

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## **I Петрдің Каспий маңы саясатының кейбір аспектілері: XVIII ғ. I ширегіндегі экспедиция жұмыстары негізінде**

Тарихтың түрлі кезеңдерінде сол замандағы тарихи-саяси жағдайдың әсерінен атауы түрліше өзгерістерге түскен Каспий теңізінің тарихи-географиялық мәселелерін зерттеудің маңызы зор. Мақала Ресей, Қазақстан және шетелдік ғылыми еңбектеріне сүйене отырып жазылған. Зерттеудің мақсаты мен міндеті — XVIII ғасыр басындағы Каспий теңізі алабын зерттеу мен игеру мақсатындағы I Петр ұйымдастырған экспедициялардың теңіз туралы ғылыми мәліметтерді жинақтаудағы тарихи мәнін зерделеу. Бұл бойынша теңіз тарихы, теңіз атауы туралы мәліметтерді сараптау; теңіздің тарихи-географиялық және экономикалық ерекшеліктері бойынша архив қорларынан табылған орыс саяхатшылары мен ғалымдарының жазбаларына ғылыми талдау жұмыстарын жүргізу. Каспий теңізі мен оның тарихи-географиялық мәселелері ежелгі дүниеден бері көптеген саяхатшы, тарихшы, географ-ғалымдардың тарихи зерттеу тақырыбына айналған болатын. Авторлар негізгі көзқарасты I Петр кезеңіндегі Каспий теңізі бойында ұйымдастырылған экспедицияларға аудара отырып, осы мәселе турасында жазылған көптеген картографиялық материалдар мен деректерді жүйелеу арқылы ғылыми қорытындылар жасайды.

*Кілт сөздер:* Каспий теңізінің картасы, Каспий теңізі, тарихи география, тарихи карта, I Петр экспедициясы, тарих, Каспий маңы саясаты.

Б.Б. Баишов, А.Ж. Абденов, Ж.Ж. Оразаева, Н.К. Демеуова

## Некоторые аспекты прикаспийской политики Петра I: на основе экспедиции в I четверти XVIII в.

В разные периоды истории большое значение имеет изучение историко-географических проблем Каспийского моря, название которых претерпело различные изменения под влиянием историко-политической ситуации того времени. Статья написана на основе российских, казахстанских и зарубежных научных трудов. Цель и задачи исследования — изучение исторического значения экспедиций, организованных Петром I в целях изучения и освоения бассейна Каспийского моря начала XVIII в., в сборе научных данных о море: экспертиза данных по морской истории, названию моря; проведение научного анализа записей русских путешественников и ученых, найденных в архивных фондах по историко-географическим и экономическим особенностям моря. Каспийское море и его историко-географические проблемы с древних времен стали предметом исторических исследований многих путешественников, историков, географов-ученых. Авторы делают научные выводы, систематизируют многочисленные картографические материалы и сведения, переводя основной подход в организованные экспедиции по Каспийскому морю периода Петра I.

*Ключевые слова:* карта Каспийского моря, Каспийское море, историческая география, историческая карта, экспедиции Петра I, история, прикаспийская политика.

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