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## THE GEOGRAPHY OF GOYCHAY DISTRICT

### Abstract

The article talks about Goychay district, which is one of the beautiful corners of Azerbaijan. Here, the history of Goychay district is looked through, its naming, the villages included in its territory and information about which districts it is surrounded by. At the same time, it was noted which rocks the area is covered with. The existing depleting and non-depleting resources were discussed. The relief, climate, and the variety of soil cover were also discussed. In this regard, the wealth of vegetation was written. The famous river of the region, Goychay, was mentioned, and the rivers flowing there were mentioned. In a word, detailed information was given about Goychay region.

**Keywords:** region, river, lake, climate, land, reserve, industry

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### Göyçay rayonunun coğrafiyası

### Xülasə

Məqalədə Azərbaycanın gözəl guşələrindən biri olan Göyçay rayonundan bəhs olunmuşdur. Burada Göyçay rayonunun tarixinə nəzər salınmış, adlandırılması, ərazisinə daxil olan kəndlər və hansı rayonlarla əhatə olunması haqqında məlumatlar qeyd olunmuşdur. Eyni zamanda, ərazisinin hansı süxurlarla örtülü olması qeyd olunmuşdur. Mövcud tükənən və tükənməyən ehtiyatlarından bəhs olunmuşdur. Relyefinin, iqliminin həmçinin, torpaq örtüyünün rəngarəngliyindən danışılmışdır. Bununla əlaqədar olaraq, bitki örtüyünün zənginliyi yazılmışdır. Ərazinin məşhur çayı, Göyçaydan danışılmış, ora tökülən çaylardan bəhs olunmuşdur. Bir sözlə, Göyçay rayonu haqqında ətraflı məlumat verilmişdir.

**Açar sözlər:** rayon, çay, göl, iqlim, torpaq, ehtiyat, sənaye

### Introduction

Goychay district is in one of the beautiful corners of Azerbaijan. Let's take a look at the history of Goychay district. In 1867, in December, Goychay District was established within the Baku Governorate. The center of this created district was Goychay, and it started to be called a city since 1916. On August 8, 1930, it was called Goychay district. The meaning of the name Goychay is taken from the name of the Goychay river on its bank. So, the water of this river is extremely transparent and blue in color, so it was called so. Goychay district is located in the northern part of the Shirvan Plain of the Republic of Azerbaijan, at the foot of the Caucasus Mountains. It stretches 25 km from north to south, and 40 km from east to west. Its area is 736 sq. Goychay district is bordered by 4 districts. It is surrounded with Ismayilli from the northeast, Kurdamir from the southeast, Ujar from the south, and Agdash district from the west (Geography of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Volume II. Economic, social and political geography, 2015:126).

It should be noted that Goychay region is included in the Central Aran economic region in the Kura-Araz plain. The region includes 1 city, 25 rural districts and 55 rural settlements (Eminov, 998:7-8).

Ministry of Agriculture As examples of the largest settlements of Goychay district, we can name villages such as Bighir, Lekchilpag, Karamaryam, Ince, Chakhirli, Karabaggal. If we look at the relief of Goychay region, we will see that it is divided into 2 parts - mountainous and plain parts. We can refer to the Bozdag Garamaryam strip to the mountainous zone, and the rest of the region to the plains. According to the geological structure of the region, it belongs to the third period of the Caenozoic era, and the plain area belongs to the fourth period of that era. areas have a low mountainous relief (Administrative-territorial structure of Azerbaijan, 2010:203).

The Garamaryam strip occupies the north of Goychay. In these areas, Neogene and Anthropogene sediments are widely distributed. The territory of Goychay region is rich in minerals used in the construction industry. Mainly, river stone and gravel sand are extracted from near the village of Jairli. In addition, there are rich clay deposits near the village of Garabaggal in the region. It is mainly used in the production of high-quality bricks. Among the inexhaustible resources, solar energy has potential, wind and water energy are suitable for limited use. Goychay is considered to be the source of running water. Since the population began to settle in the territory of Goychay district, it has been used as the main source of water through the canals separated from the river.

Groundwater is available in the plain zone of the region. Among these waters, such as the artesian waters of Garaman, Jairli, Lekchiplag, etc. It is used in villages. Along the Goychay-Ujar road, in the rural areas around the Bargushad road, there are water basins containing sulfur compounds.

If we take a look at the nature of Goychay region, we will see that the vegetation is spread mainly in the mountain formation. So, most of the mountainous part of the region is surrounded by bushes. Mainly due to the proximity of the groundwater in the region, the marsh and saline plants are willow, wormwood and sedge, blackberry and moisture-loving grasses. spread. The relief, climatic conditions, as well as the colorful soil cover create favorable conditions for the growth of various plants in the region. As in the Shirvan plain, in the area of the region, as well as in the shallow areas of the region, grass-grass plants have developed due to the moisture conditions and groundwater.

In the sloping proluvial-deluvial plain at the foot of the mountain, there are agot, licorice, wormwood, grasses and various grasses, pomegranate, blackthorn, blackberry, yida, etc. Plant groups have been developed. Semi-desert plants are found mainly in the saline soils of the region. The plant does not grow in complete parts of the compounds. Although the soil of the region is not very fertile, it is relatively good for growing crops. Many subtropical and technical plants are planted in such areas. We should note that legumes and fodder plants are grown in spring and autumn when there is a lot of rain.

In the south of the region, cotton, rice, and grapes dominate. In addition to specially cultivated plants, there are more plants that grow naturally in mountainous and foothill areas. As examples of these plants, we can mention such plants as mulberry, sumac, pomegranate, thyme, rose hip, etc. ( Geography of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 2015:109).

It should be noted that there used to be a lot of natural forests in the region. Currently, their number has decreased somewhat. In 1949-50, there was a forest strip on the side of the Goychay-Ujar road. Apples, pears, cherries, plums, oleanders, pomegranates, walnuts, oaks, poplars, birches, and so on are grown here. Vardi.. Goychay region is distinguished by its pomegranates, cherries, cherries, figs, turnips, quinces and dates in our republic. But Goychay is known for its natural beauty in the whole republic by its Khan plane trees. The animal world of the region is not so rich. The reason for this is the change of the relief of the area from the south to the north from the semi-desert to the low mountains.

All these calculations show their influence on the formation of the animal world. As the population of the region increases, as the production and service infrastructure expands, the number

of animal species decreases with the reduction of greenery, forests, and local reserves. Forest squirrel, boar, raccoon, etc. in the foothills. We can give an example of some animals. In the foothill semi-deserts and plains, there are red-tailed gerbils, hyenas, partridges, buzzards, shepherds, geese, reed cats, pheasants, turaj, dovdaq, ducks, storks and vultures. Among the animals typical for the region are wolves, foxes, rabbits, sparrows, crows, magpies, mountain pigeons, common vipers, rattlesnakes, koramal, water snakes, golden and shahmar snakes, lizards, land and water turtles.

There are a few fish, many insects and locusts in the water bodies. Let's talk about the soil structure of Goychay region. As we know, the interaction of the lithosphere, atmosphere, and hydrosphere plays a key role in the formation of soils. Geochemical, geophysical, and biological processes are also involved in these spheres. In addition to these general laws that we have mentioned, their role in soil formation in local conditions is great.

The soils of the Kura-Araz lowland and Goychay region, located in the sloping plain area, were formed on new and ancient river sediments, small granular weathering materials and pebble sediments collected at the mouths of mountain rivers. If we look at the dry steppe and semi-desert area of the lowland, which is included in the region, we will see that the vegetation cover in those areas is poor. We can explain the reason for this by the low rainfall in those areas (Regions of Azerbaijan 2001-2009:306).

However, the soil cover of Goychay region is distinguished by its diversity. In the foothills of the plain, it is light-chestnut and gray-brown (Karamaryam, Karayazi, Bigir, etc.), in the cones of the river it is light-brown. grass, gray-brown soils occupy the main place. In a part of the territory there are clay soils consisting of gray grass. As a result of drier and hotter climate, as well as underground water being close to the surface, a number of meadows and soils have become saline. We can explain the reason for this as follows.

Thus, the southern part of the region was the gulf of the Caspian Sea in ancient times. A large amount of salt in the lower layers of the soil goes to the upper layers through groundwater, then the water evaporates, and the salt remains on the soil as a white layer. The salinized upper layer of the soil is light in color, its physical composition is relatively loose, and its structure is layer-like. Also, in some areas of the region, the soil is gray in color. Rainfall in such lands creates moisture in the soil, which in turn leads to the creation of silty swamps. In the south of the region, various swamps have formed. Such swamps are usually saline.

The lakes in Ujar and Kurdamir regions are saline. The flora and fauna in the neighboring areas are protected by the Ismailli reserve of the region. . Let's give information about the climate of Goychay region. The dominant climate type in Goychay region is dry summer, mild hot semi-desert and dry subtropical climate. This climate type is characterized by mild winters with low humidity and hot-dry summers ( Azerbaijan in the 20th century. In 2 parts, Part II 2001:404).

The territory of Goychay region is divided into two parts according to the type of climate. The first includes the areas south of the city of Goychay, and the second includes the climate of the villages located at the foot of the mountains of the Greater Caucasus. Since the region has a humid and mild climate, winters are cold and summers are hot here. creates special conditions for the cultivation of crops. Cereal crops are mainly cultivated in the north of the region in the foothills.

During the periods when the Sea Arctic air masses entering the territory of our republic affect our territory, the temperature drops significantly, strong winds blow, and heavy rains fall. As a result, subtropical plants and cultivated fields perish due to frost. Let's give an example of this. As a result of the heavy snow that fell on January 14, 1971, the air temperature dropped to 15 degrees in most villages of Goychay - such as Garabaqgal, Garaman, Bighir, etc., and as a result, cultivated pomegranate trees dried up massively. The amount of annual solar radiation falling on the territory of the region is 125 / 130 cal/sq. The annual amount of radiation balance is 45-46 kcal/sq.cm. The average annual temperature is 14.2 degrees. In the cold period of the year (January), it is +1.9c, in July (hot summer), it is +26.4c. In the summer months, the absolute maximum air temperature sometimes rises to 41 degrees. The average annual absolute minimum temperature is -8 degrees, and varies between -7 degrees and 16 degrees throughout the year. In different years, the minimum

temperature in the region was -16, -18 degrees. The average annual temperature of the soil surface is 17 degrees, the average monthly temperature in January is 2 degrees, and the temperature in July is 33 degrees. As for the average annual relative humidity of the air in the region, it is 71%, 82% in January, and 56% in July. Rain falls in the territory of Goychay region mostly in spring and summer seasons. The average annual amount of precipitation for this area varies between 400-500 mm, and evaporation from the surface cover varies between 900-1000 mm. The most precipitation falls on the foothills and slopes. For this reason, sugarcane farming is more developed in those areas. According to the amount of precipitation, the climate of the region is compared with the climate of the Kura-Araz plain. The average annual speed of the wind in the region is 2.0/sec. Mostly north and west winds blow in the region. The direction of the wind in the region changes quickly during the year. Thus, in the warm months, the east and southeast winds blow here, and in the cold months, the west and northwest winds blow. The wind that brings the most precipitation to the territory of the region is the western wind. The most wind blows from the Haftaran valley, the place where the Goychay river begins, from the north to the south in almost all seasons of the year. This wind brings cold in winter and coolness in summer. Winds in mountainous and foothills are mainly called mountain-valley winds, which is caused by the uneven heating of plains and mountainous areas. There are winds blowing from the north, which mainly start blowing from February, and such winds are called Novruz wind. Terrible gusts of wind damage agriculture and crops in general.

Since Goychay region mainly consists of plain areas, no river system is formed here. The existing river networks in Goychay region originate from the Great Caucasus mountains. The internal waters of the region are included in the Shirvan hydrological region. Rivers are fed by snow, rain and groundwater. The most important river in the region is the Goychay river. Goychay River is the only river in the region, whose water played an important role in the formation of the nature, settlement, and livelihood of the region. For many years, about 40 thousand hectares of land in Goychay and Ujar regions were irrigated with its water. (Azerbaijan in the 20th century. In 2 parts, part I 2001:176) The Goychay river belongs to the rivers of the southern slope of the Great Caucasus mountains and also belongs to the Kura river. It is a transit river of the Shirvan plain. This river flows through the territory of Gabala, Ismayilli, Ujar and Goychay districts. The Goychay River originates from the southern foothills of the Greater Caucasus in the western part of Kaf Mountain, which is 2435m high, 2.5 km west of Salavat Pass, at the height of Baba Mountain, 1980m high. Due to the melioration measures taken, this river was directly connected to the Kura River. The total length of this river is 115km, and it is a water collector. its area is 1770 sq. km. The average speed of water flow in the river is 12.5 m/s, the highest speed is 70 m/s.

It flows into the Goychay river in a number of rivers. For example, we can cite the names of rivers such as Bugur, Keyniyachay, Peshnochay, Zaratchay, Galajik Karachay, Eligyanchay, Buynuzchay, etc. Also, this river divides into two branches. Again, it divides into separate branches and ditches when approaching the territory of Goychay. The second important river in Goychay region is the Arvan river. The river starts on the southern slope of the Greater Caucasus (from the Arvan mountain) 12 km from the region. The river caused damage to the city population due to the rains that fell in the spring months. For this reason, Arvan River was connected to Goychay River during 1972-1980. Rivers are fed by snow, rain and underground water. Thus, 12% snow, 28% rain, and 60% underground water make up rivers. The average annual water consumption of the river is 12 cubic m/s. The highest water consumption here is in spring and autumn. It happens during the seasons when there is a lot of precipitation. According to official information as of July 1, 2015, 116.1 thousand people live in Goychay district. The ethnic composition of Goychay district is diverse. That is, not only Azerbaijanis live here, but also representatives of many nations, as well as a number of minority nations living in Azerbaijan. The main reason for the diversity of the population in Goychay district is related to the presence of an emergency center. Besides all these, there are many historical monuments of Goychay. As an example, we can show the Underground Bath. So this bath is more than 130 years old. This monument is considered one of the rare architectural monuments of Azerbaijan. One of the ancient historical monuments of Goychay region

is Abulfazlil Abbas mosque. The mosque is in the center of Goychay district. This mosque was built in 1902. Also, one of the buildings in Goychay is the Haji Jalil mosque, which belongs to the 19th century. Archaeological excavations were also carried out in the region, and various types of pit graves were discovered here. Development State Program The necropolis of jug graves belongs to the 3rd century BC (Socio-economic of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2004-209 Development State Program 2004:27). It was found near the village of Garamaryam. In addition, it was discovered in the cemetery belonging to the first Middle Ages near the village of Garamaryam. Such cemeteries and the necropolis of jug graves were found near the villages of Ince and Arabjabirli in Goychay. There are currently 37 public libraries, 10 culture houses, 17 clubs, 1 children's music school, 3 museums with a book fund of 312.9 thousand copies operating in the region. In addition, 1 hospital, 17 doctor's offices, which will operate by the beginning of 2022, in Goychay region. 147 doctors and 303 paramedics worked in 31 medical centers and 1 emergency facility, 12 doctors and 25 paramedics per 10,000 people of the population ( Industry of Azerbaijan – 2009:127). Currently, the Olympic Sports Complex, 181 sports facilities, a stadium with 1-1.5 thousand seats, 39 closed gyms, and 3 sports schools are operating in the region ( Socio-economic of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2009-2013:106).

### Conclusion

Traditionally, agriculture, processing industry and other industries have played a leading role in the economy of Goychay region. However, telecommunication, construction, transport, trade, catering, etc., are in the region. service areas have also developed. Goychay region had a very strong industrial potential during the USSR. Textile Factory, Canning Factory, Food Products Factory, Car Repair Factory, which used to operate in the region, were considered among the largest enterprises of the republic.( Economy of Azerbaijan 1998:271) With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the severing of economic ties with other republics resulted in the temporary stoppage of the large industrial enterprises of the region. Currently, active work is being carried out in these enterprises in the direction of continuing the economic activity ( Allahverdiyev N.N. Economic and social geography of Azerbaijan SSR 1991:157).

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