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S. P. KHROMOV [1-864-1]

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The climate in the region of the Sea of Azov is continental. The winter is cold and relatively dry, and strong northerly and easterly winds prevail. The mean air temperature in January and February varies from -1°C in the south to -6°C in the north, with minimum temperatures of -10°C and below. The summer is hot and relatively wet, with prevailing westerly winds. The mean temperature in July is 23.5°C or 24.5°C , with a maximum of 40°C . Precipitation varies from 312 mm to 528 mm per year, with the predominant share falling in the summer months (1.5-2 times as much as in the other seasons).

The hydrological regime of the Sea of Azov is determined by its continental position, the climate, the river drainage, the water exchange through the Kerch' Strait, and human activity on the drainage territory. Of basic significance is the freshwater component of the water balance, which is calculated as a yearly average of the continental drainage (39.6 cu km) and precipitation (13.5 cu km), minus evaporation (33.9 cu km); the surplus of fresh water over the year is 17.4 cu km, and this flows out through the Kerch' Strait. The currents have a general counterclockwise circulation, but under the influence of the easterly and northeasterly winds they can move in the opposite direction. The water temperature has a sharp annual fluctuation. In the winter it drops below 0°C , and in the summer it reaches 25°C or 30°C . Water salinity in the south is 11 parts per thousand and in the remaining portion of the sea 9-10 parts per thousand. The average water level in the Sea of Azov fluctuates significantly from year to year (sometimes as much as 33 cm). The episodic differences in the level depend chiefly upon the winds, and can be as much as 5.5 m. Ice appears in November and December in Taganrog Bay, and by the end of February and the beginning of March, the entire area of the sea is covered with ice. The ice begins to disappear in March and April.

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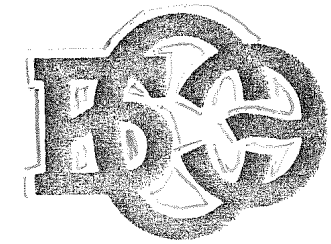
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eden kavimlerin yolu üzerinde Hazarların ve Peçeneklerin nüfuz sâhası içinde kalan şehir XI. yüzyılın ikinci yarısında Kumanlar tarafından ele geçirilmiş, daha sonra da Altın-Ordu bölgesine dâhil olmuştur. Orta-çağ'da terk edilmiş bir hâle gelen Tanais'in yerini, Don nehrinin güney ayağının sol sahilinde ve nehir ağzından 15 km. içerdeki Tana şehri almıştır.

XII. yüzyılda İdrîsî, Tana şehrinin, Batlamyus ile Hârizmî'nin karışmasından ileri gelen طومي adını Tuma (طوما) şeklinde yazmıştır. Bu isim, İbn Sa'îd el-Magribî ile Ebu'l-Fidâ'ya başka bir şehrin adı gibi geçmiştir. Ebu'l-Fidâ, bu şehrin Tuma denizinin kenarında iyi bakımlı ve ahâlisinin çoğunun müslüman Bulgarlar olduğunu belirterek, aralarında hristiyanların da bulunduğunu yazar. Ona göre, bu bölgedeki başlıca şehir Tuma'dır. Orta-çağ'da Tana, Karadeniz ticaretinin mühim merkezlerinden biri olmuştur.

XII. yüzyılın sonlarında Suriye'deki Latin prensliklerinin kaldırılması üzerine çok zarar gören Venedikliler, Karadeniz ticaretini ellerinde tutmağa çalışan Cenevizliler ile mücadeleye girişince, iki devlet arasında Kefe ve Tana'da büyük bir rekabet baş gösterdi. Tana, balık ve buğday ihrac, buna karşılık kumaş ve şarap ithal eden ve esir ticâreti ile de uğraşan, biri Astrihan ve Kâbil'den diğeri İran'dan geçen, iki kervan yolunun da başlangıcı idi. Tana baharat ve ipek ticâreti bakımından elverişli bir yer olduğu için, İtalyanlar bu şehir aracılığıyla adı geçen ticâret yollarına nüfuz etmek istediler. Azak'tan Pekin'e uzanan ticâret yolunu tavsif eden ilk Avrupalı Floransalı Pegolotti'dir. Tana ismine, Avrupalıların haritalarında 1306'dan başlayarak rastlanır. Ancak 1316'dan önce Cenevizlilerin Tana'da kışlamalarının yasak olduğuna bakılırsa, o sıralarda henüz bir koloninin mevcut bulunmadığı anlaşılır. 1317'den başlayarak paraların üstünde, Tana'nın Türkçe adı olan ve nehre izâfe olunarak „ayak“ mânasına gelen „azak“ ismine rastlanır. Bu ad, islâm âlimlerinden ilk olarak İbn Fazl Allah el-Umarî, sonra da Ebu'l-Fidâ ve İbn Battûta'da görülmektedir.

XIV. yüzyılın ilk yarısında Cenevizlilerin yanında Venediklilerin de Tana ile ticârî münâsebetlere giriştiklerini görüyoruz. Nitekim 1332'de Altın-Ordu Hanı Özbek Han, nezdindeki Venedik elçisinin Azak'ta Venediklilere mahsus bir mahalle kurulması için yaptığı mürâcaatı yüzde üç vergi vermek şartıyla kabûl etmiştir. Bu mahalle Don nehri kenarındaki bataklık bir sâhada ve kazıklar üstüne kurulmuştur. Azak'ta daha önceki bir Ceneviz mahallesinin de 1316 ile 1332 yılları arasında kurulmuş olması gerekir. Şaban 734 (nisan 1334)'te Azak'ı ziyaret eden İbn Battûta, o havâlinin Tülüktemür adlı bir emirin hükmü altında bulundu-

ğunu, Azak'ın ise Hârizmli Mehmed Hoca tarafından idare edildiğini, şehrin deniz kenarında ve güzel bir belde olduğunu söyler.

Ceneviz ve Venediklilerin Azak'taki rekabetleri devam etmiş, Özbek Han'ın halefi Cani Beg Han, Venediklilere yeni müsaadeler de vermiştir.

1343 yılında Venedik gemicileri ile halk arasında çıkan bir kavga, Venedikli ve Cenevizlilerin mallarının yağmasına, evlerinin ise tahribine sebep olmuş, Cenevizliler 350 bin Venedikliler ise 300 bin altın (écu) zarara uğramışlardı. Cani Beg, bunun üzerine batılı tüccarlara bir daha Azak'ta görünmemelerini emretmişse de, Azak'ın dış ticârete kapatılması Bizans'da balık ve buğday kıtlığı doğurunca, Venedik ve Cenove, Han'a gönderdikleri sefirleri aracılığı ile yeniden anlaşmayı sağlamış, sâdece Venediklilerin ödedikleri gümrük resmi yüzde beşe çıkarılmıştı. Bu durum Venedik ile Cenove arasında 1352'de bir deniz savaşına sebep olmuş ve üç yıl süreyle bu ikisi, Azak ile ticârî münâsebetlerini kesmişlerdi.

XIV. yüzyıl sonlarında bozulan Venedik-Cenove münâsebetleri 1381 Torino andlaşması ile yeniden düzelmiş, fakat Azak ticâreti iki yıl için terk edilmişti.

Altın-Ordu devletine hücum eden Timur'un kuvvetleri 1391'de Azak kapılarına dayanmış,

Timur ise, 1396 seferinden dönüşünde Azak'a hücum ile buradaki imtiyazlı mahalleri yağma ve tahrip etmiş, ancak ayrılışından sonra Venedikliler yıkılan binalarını ve kalelerini yeniden yapmışlardı. Timur istilâsı, Çin'e giden kervan yolu üzerindeki Astrihan ve Saray şehirlerinin harap olmasına yol açtığı için Azak bu yoldan gelen mallardan da mahrum bırakılmıştı. Buna rağmen Venedikliler ve Cenevizliler balık ve esir ticâreti için burayı uygun buldukları cihetle şehirden ayrılmamışlardı. 1410'da Kıfçak Hanı Pulad Beg, Azak'a hücum ile Venediklileri öldürüp, evlerini yağma etti. Halefi Timur Han, yalnız Cenevizlilere ticâret yapmak hakkını vermiş, 1418'de Kerimberdi Han büyük bir ordu ile şehri baştan başa yıkmış, ancak bu tahripten sonra da surlar ve kaleler yeniden yapılmıştı.

Karadeniz'deki İtalya kolonilerine II. Mehmed nihâyet verdi. İstanbul'un fethinden sonra Kırım Hanı Hacı Giray ile anlaşarak, Kefe'yi vergiye bağladığı gibi, Cenove'nin kendi sıkışık iç durumu dolayısıyla, Karadeniz'deki kolonilerini, bu arada Tana'yı da, Banco di S. Giorgia denilen bir mâli müesseseye devretmişti. Bir kısım Kırımhlılar Osmanlı hükümdârına, Cenevizlilerin Kırım işlerine karıştığını bildirerek şikâyet edince, II. Mehmed, 1475'te Gedik Ahmed Paşa kumandasında yolladığı donanma ile başta Kefe olmak üzere Tana (Azak)'ı ele geçirmiş, böylece buradaki kolonilere son vermişti.

²⁵ **AZAK.** Yunanlıların kurdukları Tanais kolonisinin civârında olmasından dolayı onların Tanais, Türklerin Ten dedikleri Don nehrinin ağzında bir şehirdir. Bu şehrin yerinde daha önce İskitlere âit bir ticâret merkezi vardı. Tanais kelimesinin İskitçe su anlamına gelen ve bu yerin adı olan Tana'dan geldiği sanılmaktadır. Bosphore kırallarının hâkimiyeti altına geçen şehri, bu kırallardan Polemon'un M. s. I. yüzyılda tahrip ettiği, ondan bir asır sonra eskisine yakın bir yerde kurulan Tanais'in büyük bir önem taşımadığı anlaşılıyor. Sonraları doğudan batıya göç

Köçük Türk-İslâm Ans.

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CHASE F. ROBINSON

Azov (Azak)

Azov (Turk. Azak; Ott. Āzāq) is a town at the mouth of the Don River, in the Rostov Oblast of today's Russian Federation. It traces its origins to a Kipchak settlement that was founded in the Middle Ages near the site of the ancient Greek colony of Tanais. By the early fourteenth century, the Genoese and Venetians had established trade colonies in the town, which was known in Italian as Tana (after Tanais). The Turkish name Azak was first recorded on a silver coin

minted in 717/1317–8 in the name of Özbek Khān (r. 712–42/1313–41). Muslim Tatars comprised the majority of the population, which also included Italians and Greeks, and the town's medieval division into three quarters—Genoese, Venetian, and non-Italian (called Qal'e-i Khāk or Topraq-qal'e)—survived into the sixteenth century. The Genoese and Venetian consuls in Azak were subject to the authority of Tatar governors appointed by the Khāns of the Golden Horde. Conflicts between the European merchants and Tatar rulers, as well as the intense rivalry between the Venetians and Genoese, often disrupted the town's flourishing transcontinental trade in slaves, silk, spices, furs, and caviar. Jānī Bek Khān (r. 742–58/1341–57) temporarily expelled all Italians from Azak in 1343, and the town was heavily damaged during the fighting in 1395 between Tokhtamışh Khān (d. 807 or 808/1405 or 1406) and Tīmūr (d. 807/1405). Profiting from a crisis within the Golden Horde, the Italian colonies achieved greater autonomy in the fifteenth century.

Following the Ottoman conquest of Kaffa and southern Crimea, Ottoman forces under the command of Gedik Aḥmed Pasha (d. 887/1483) captured Azak in 1475, and the town became the centre of a *qaḍā* in the *sancaq* (later *eyālet*) of Kefe (Kaffa). A sixteenth-century Ottoman survey register (Istanbul, Başbakanlık Osmanlı Arşivi, Tapu ve Tahrir Defterleri, no. 370) records that Azak's inhabitants were predominantly Muslim, but also included a substantial number of Eastern Slav (Rūs) and Circassian Christians. Apart from the garrison, the town consisted of 250 households, and the chief occupation of many of its residents was fishing. The Italians, who had lost their autonomy with the Ottoman con-