

Bandar Torkaman a must-see Iranian port city



Ashuradeh
nipna.ir



Gomishan wetland
Blog.rahal.com

Iranica Desk

Bandar Torkaman is an Iranian port city on the Caspian Sea, in the north-eastern province of Golestan.

It has many fabulous tourist attractions such as beautiful nature, wetlands and sandy beaches.

Ashuradeh

Ashuradeh Island, west of Bandar Torkaman, is the biggest island in the Caspian Sea. It included three islands many years ago, but two of them have been submerged. About 40 percent of Iran's caviar is caught near this beautiful island. A triangular castle remains in the north of the island as a cultural heritage. The island is one of the famous tourist attractions and an ideal place for bird-watching and seeing different species.

Gomishan wetland

The Gomishan wetland is located in the northwest of Gomishan district around Bandar Torkaman. It is the habitat of migratory birds that spend winter there. These migratory birds come to Iran from late October until late April.

Recreational pier

The recreational pier is situated in the west of Bandar Torkaman,

where you can enjoy riding on motorboats. The coastal bazaar of Bandar Torkaman is near this pier. Watching the sunset on this pier is glorious.

History, culture and art

Turkmens make up the majority of the city's population, although a small number of Tabaris, Kazakhs, Turks, Azeris and Sistanis also live in the area.

Iranian Turkmens speak Turkmen, which is a Ural-Altaic language. In addition to Turkmen, other languages such as Mazani, Sistani and Gorgani Persian are also spoken in this region.

Horseback riding in the spring attracts many people to this region every year. The wedding ceremonies of Turkmen people are held with special rituals which have maintained their traditional style.

Weaving carpets and rugs, embroidery, making Turkmen jewelry, felt-making and pillow-making are among the interesting handicrafts of Bandar Torkaman.

The Turkmen rug has important features such as being plain and simple, as it is woven in accordance with people's needs. Nevertheless, some Turkmen rugs are more elaborate, have more intricate designs,

and can be termed "luxury" rugs. Unlike other Iranian rugs, such as those woven in Tabriz, Kerman, Kashan or Qom, the Turkmen rug is limited in color; it mostly contains dark colors such as black, dark red, grey, navy blue, etc. Turkmen rugs usually measure between one to 12 meters in length.

The souvenirs and handicrafts of this city include quality caviar, local halva (a type of Iranian sweet made with flour), Turkmen scarves, silk products, special jewelry and Turkmen rugs.

One of the most beautiful local costumes in Iran belongs to Turkmens and spans a large cultural domain including countries such as Turkmenistan and Afghan Turkmens. Men and women's outfits each have something different to say. Men's clothing includes a whole variety of items, namely, various types of hats. And the striking feature of Turkmen women's clothing is beautiful Turkmen scarves, which come in different colors and designs and are an integral part of Turkmen garments. In addition to scarves, different types of local outfits and decorative items are also used by Turkmen women.

Turkmen music

Turkmen music is an intangible cul-

ture shared across the geographical region of Turkmen Sahra. This rich music can be heard in Iran and neighboring Turkmenistan and Afghanistan.

Local foods

Chekdermeh is very similar to Estamboli Polo (a type of food cooked with rice and tomato paste); it is specifically cooked in Bandar Torkaman and Aq-Qala City in Golestan Province.

Rice with peas and sultanas contains rice, green peas, sultanas, pomegranate paste, chicken or beef, onions, salt, pepper and other spices.

Tahchin is a type of rice cake with various ingredients including beef, eggplants, beans, etc., with a unique aroma and taste.

Boorak is very similar to doughnuts (piroshky) and is filled with different types of meat, eggplants, and vegetables; it is usually cooked during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Best travel time

If you are a nature lover, visit Bandar Torkaman during the spring and fall to enjoy its charming nature and spend memorable moments.

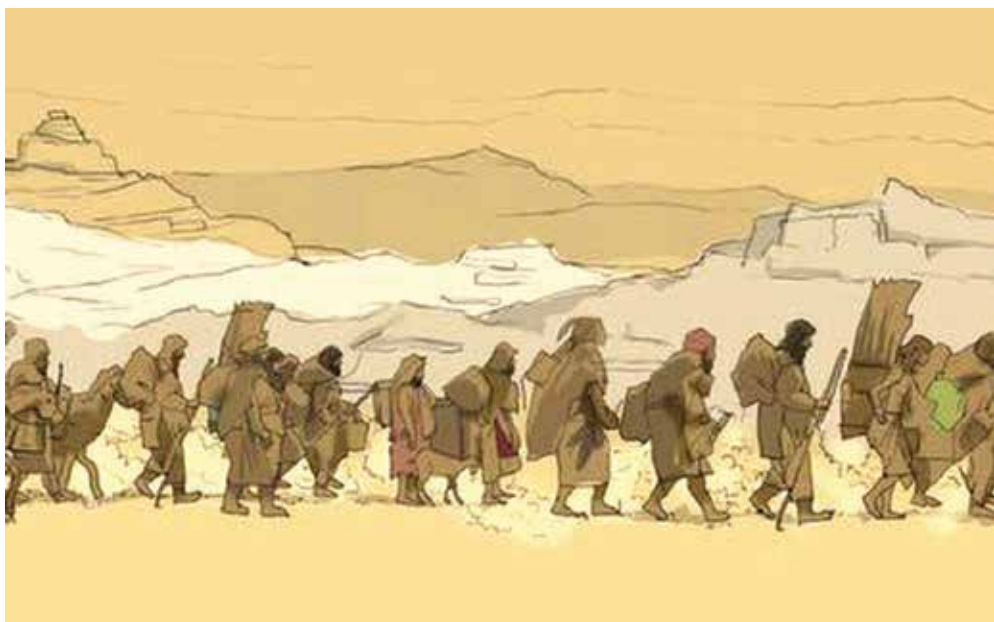


Chekdermeh
iranwonders.com



Turkmen rugs
zilux.ir

Migration of Aryans



thehindu.com

We have no information as to how and when the Aryans moved from the eastern to the western part of Iran. The Medes are mentioned for the first time in 835 BCE in an inscription of the Assyrian king Shalmaneser II; it is not clear whether these Medes were Aryans from the outset, or whether Aryan conquerors had adopted the name of earlier occupants of the country. Aryan proper names appear only with the inscriptions of Sargon, the first ruler of the Akkadian Empire (721-705 BCE). Furthermore, we do not know whether the Aryan migration occurred only along the northern route, that of the Medes, or whether it also followed the southern route from Sistan to Kerman and from there to Fars. The latter seems more likely, considering the fact that the Persians who asserted themselves in Fars included, according to Herodotus, the

Gedrosians and Germanians or Kirmanians, which meant that the entire southern part of modern Persia was occupied by one branch of Iranians who called themselves Persians, Parsa.

Since the Medes appeared in history before the Persians, it is very likely that the migration along the northern route occurred earlier.

The movement of the Aryans through the northern part of Persia probably followed the age-old route between western and eastern Asia, in other words, along the southern slope of the mountains that constitute the northern limit of the Iranian Plateau.

Certain itineraries suggest that in antiquity a part of this route passed further to the north. Thus, according to Isidore of Charax, a Greco-Roman geographer of the 1st century BCE, the road from the region called Qumis by the Arabs, with the

towns of Damghan and Semnan, proceeded northward to Hyrcania, that is, to the banks of the Gorgan, a river that flows into the Caspian Sea.

From there it continued into the country of the Parthians.

The movement of the Aryans may thus have skirted the banks of the Gorgan. The name Hyrcania (from *Wirkana*, "land of wolves"), is purely Indo-European. The migration then proceeded along the southern slope of the mountains, since the southern shore of the Caspian was occupied right down to the time of the Persian rule by populations of non-Aryan stock. Besides the route through Hyrcania, the present-day main route is mentioned, as well: Already Arrian, a Greek historian, writes that Hyrcania was to the left of the road from Media to Parthia, an ancient land corresponding roughly to the modern region of Khorasan (Khurasan) in Iran.