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The Stan's of Central Asia

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The Stan's, Who are they?

- **Kazakhstan**
- **Uzbekistan**
- **Turkmenistan**
- **Tajikistan**
- **Kyrgyzstan**

Definition of Stan- place or land of.

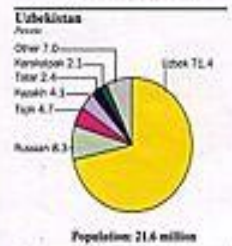
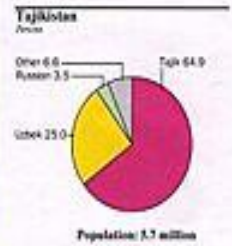
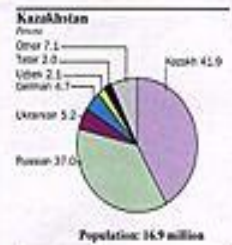
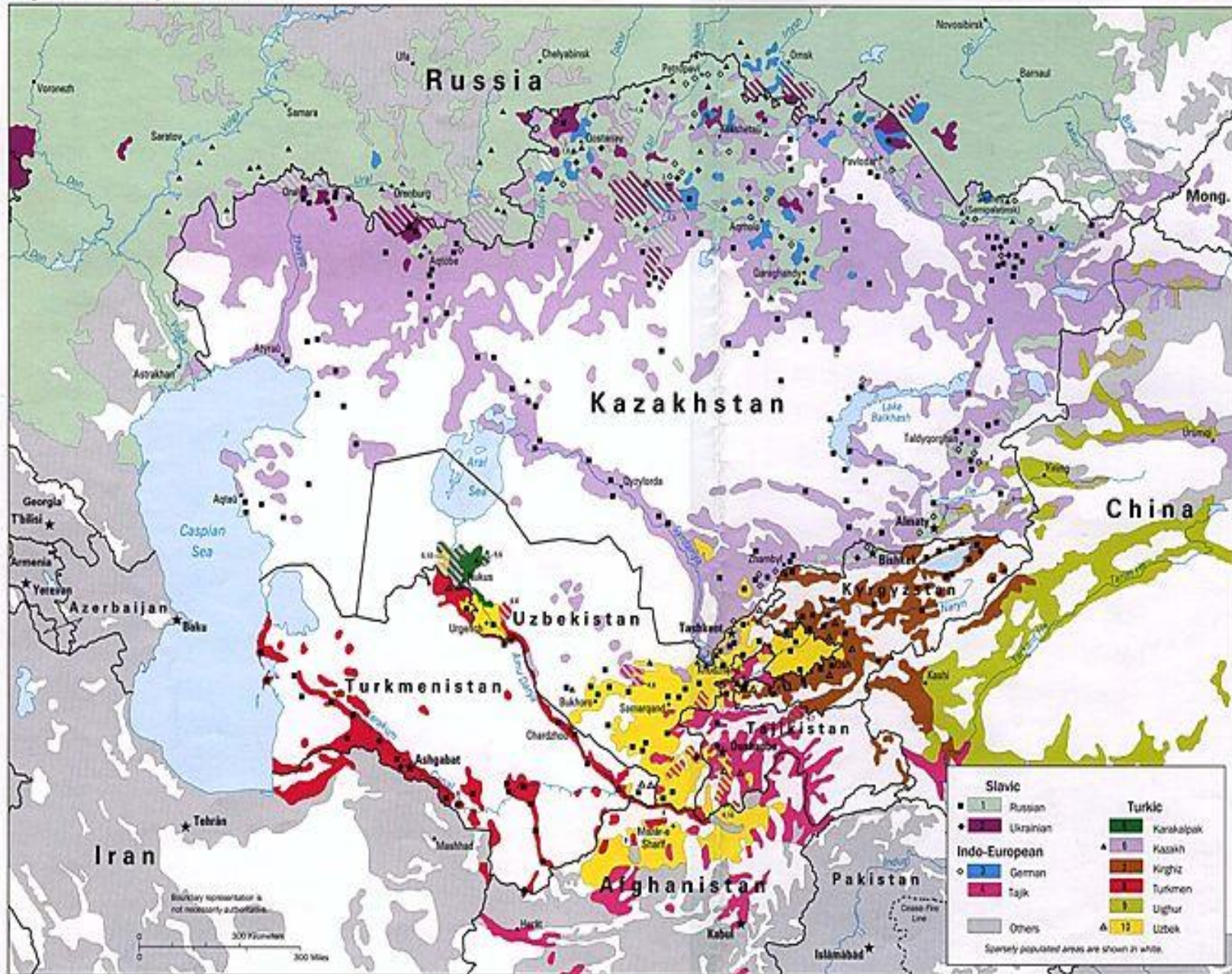
**Thus Kazakhstan is the land of the Kazakhs,
Texastan is the land of the Texans, Illinoistan is
the land of the Illini**





Some geographers place Pakistan, Afghanistan and Mongolia within the region known as Central Asia

Major Ethnic Groups in Central Asia



Ancient Silk Road had a major route that went through the Central Asian countries of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan. With a northern route that included the southern region of Kazakhstan. Religion's and customs from the far reaches of the known world entered Central Asia along this trade route.





The many routes that crossed the Central Asian region



Tradition through out the region requires that quests be given salt and bread when they arrive as a sign of welcome as this Tajik girl is doing.

Kazakhstan



The pride of Kazakhstan is its new capital Astana





Kazakhstan is the largest oil producer of the Stan's

Almaty, Kazakhstan Tian Shan Mtns



Kazakh Steppes



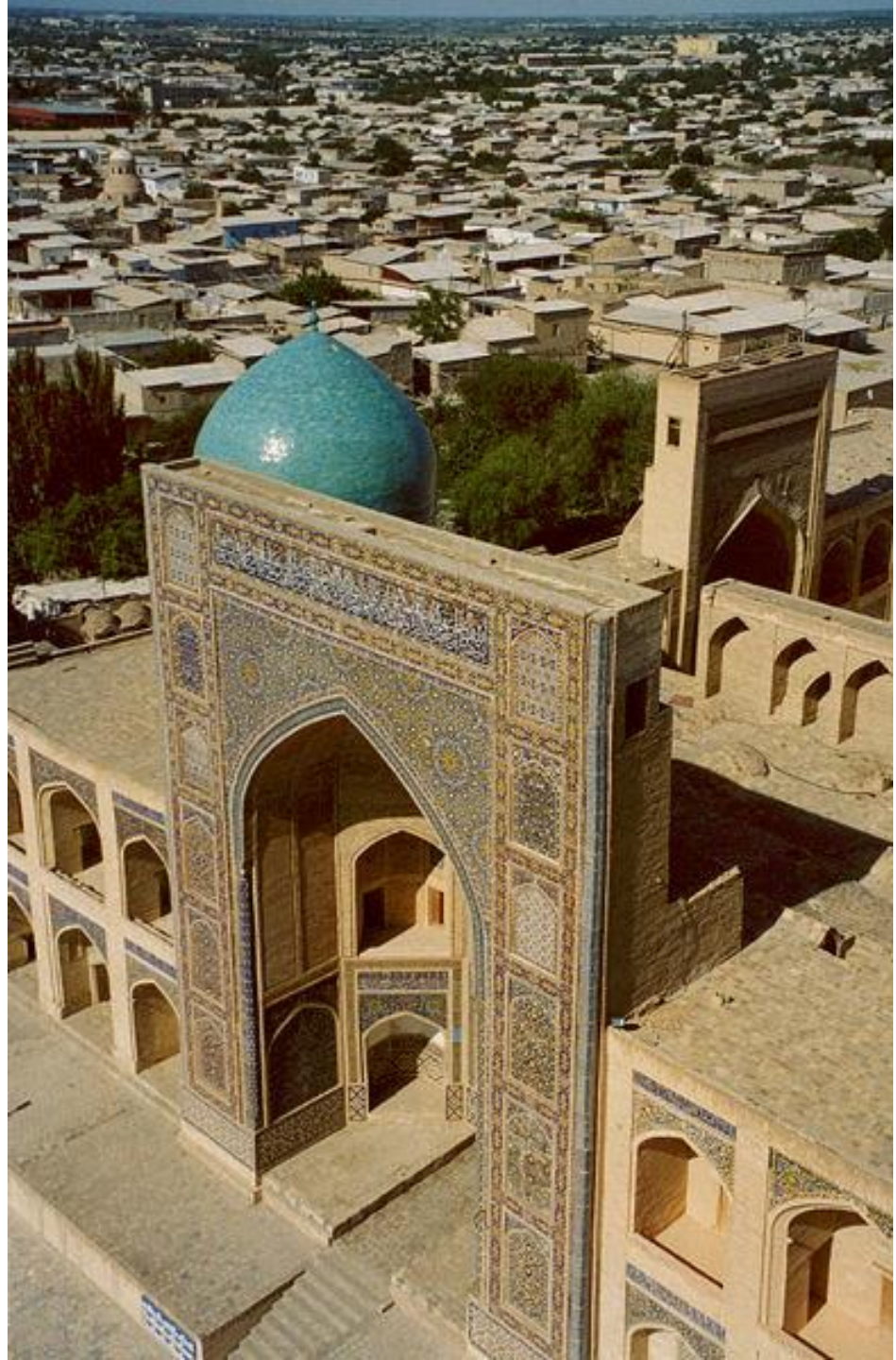
Uzbekistan



Samarkand, Uzbekistan



Bukhara, Uzbekistan



Kokand, Uzbekistan



Fergana Valley farm land, Uzbekistan





**The colorful people of
Uzbekistan**

Turkmenistan



**Presidential Palace, Ashgabat,
Turkmenistan**



Bazaar



Carpet market



Tajik Horse culture





The Tajik people



Kyrgyzstan



House of Government, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



Lake Issyk-kul, Kyrgyzstan



Kyrgyzstan Countryside



Fruit Stand at local Bazaar



Cattle Herding on the Steppes

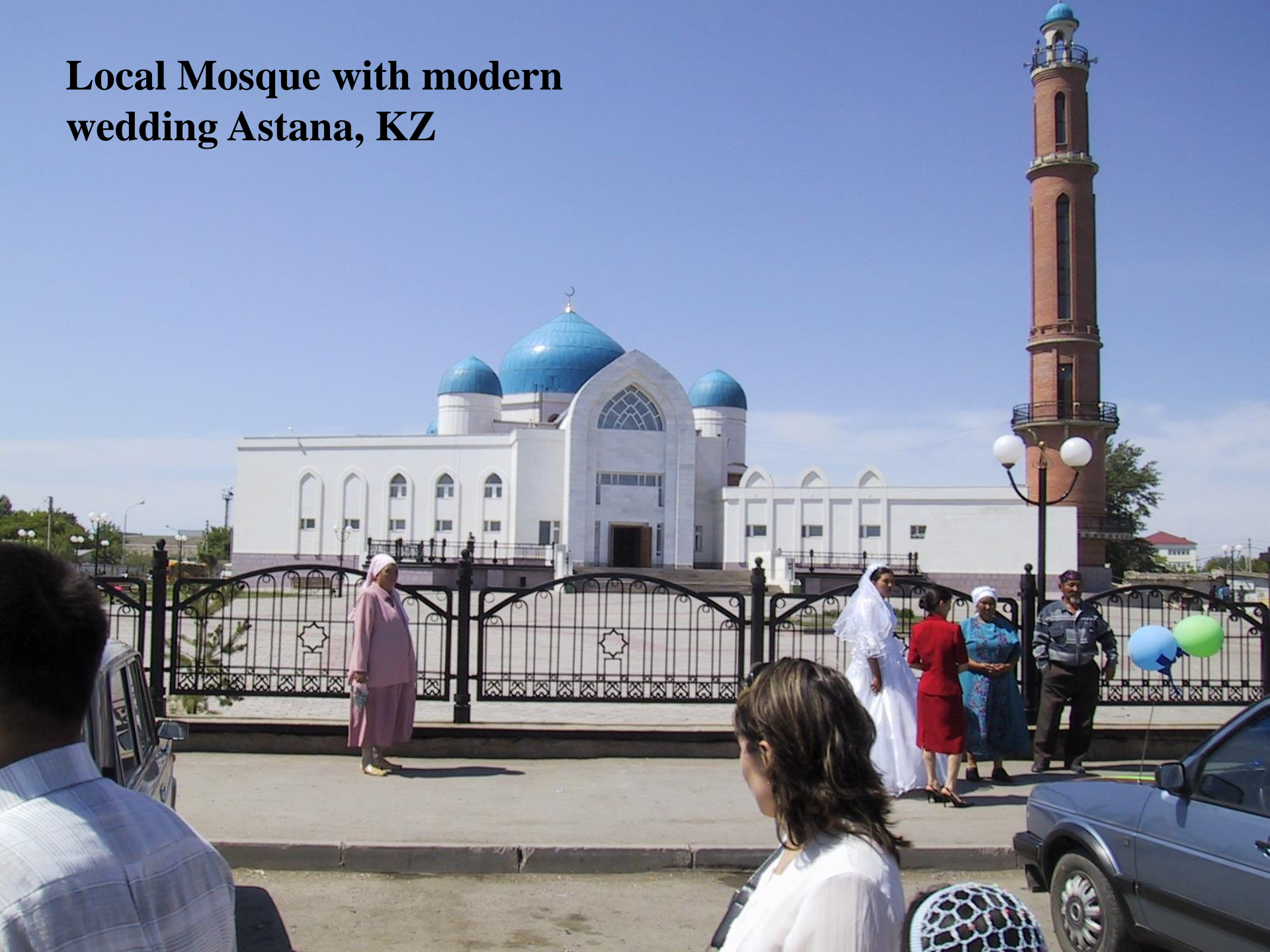




Religion

- The major religion of the region is Islam with large segments of Russian Orthodox and groups of the Jewish faith.
- Smaller groups of Christian denominations have tried to move into the region without much success.
- The Kazakh constitution requires freedom of religion and the country has hosted several world religious leaders and conferences discussing religious matters.

Local Mosque with modern wedding Astana, KZ



New Mosque Astana Kazakhstan



Strong Jewish presence
in KZ and UZ



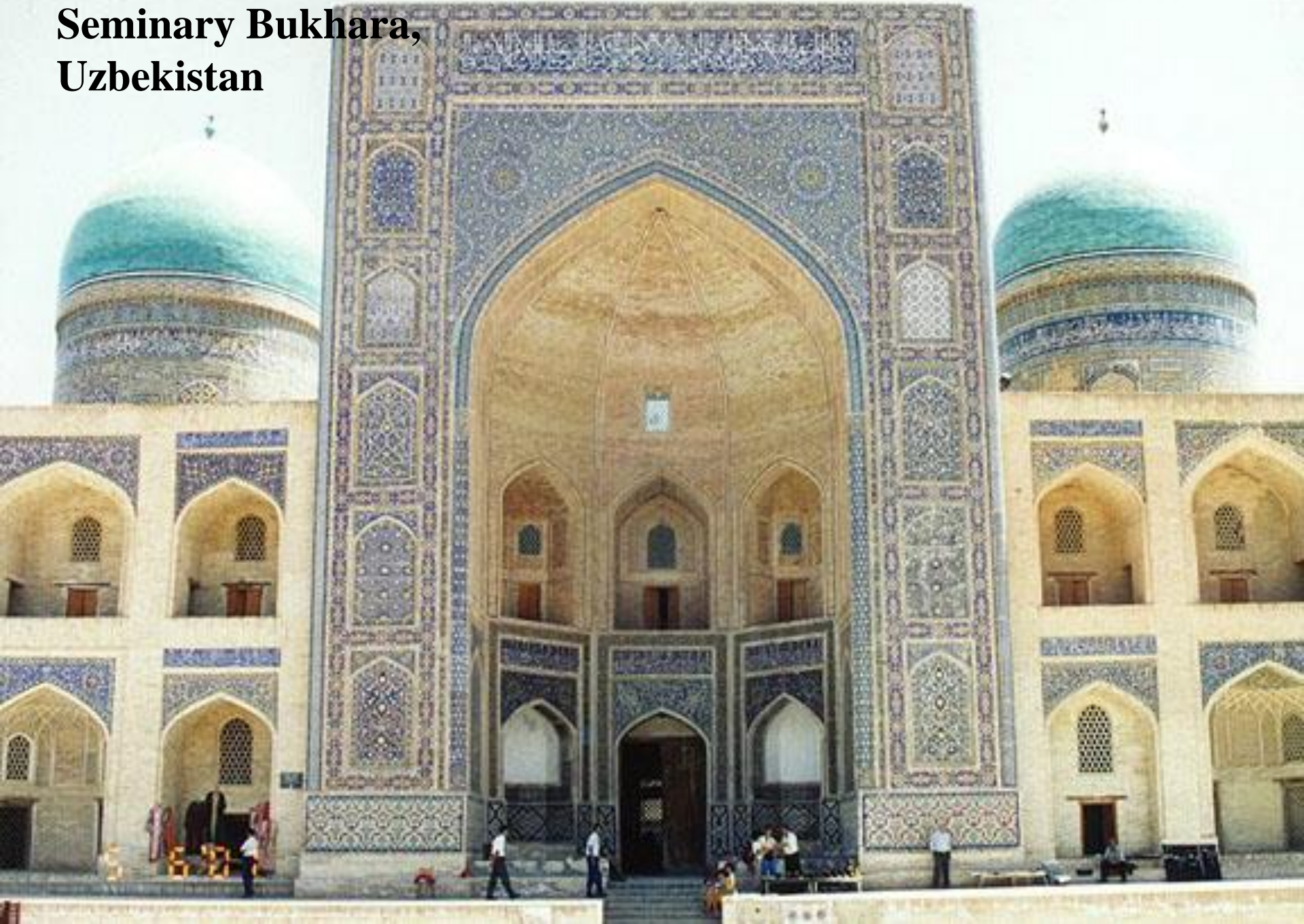


Russian Orthodox Church

Russian Orthodox Church in northern Kazakhstan



Seminary Bukhara, Uzbekistan



Plus and Minus of the region

- Plus- Petroleum and other raw materials
- Minus- Destruction of the Aral Sea

Petroleum Possibilities

Central Asian reserves represent approximately 2.7% of the world total proven oil reserves and 7% of the world gas reserves.

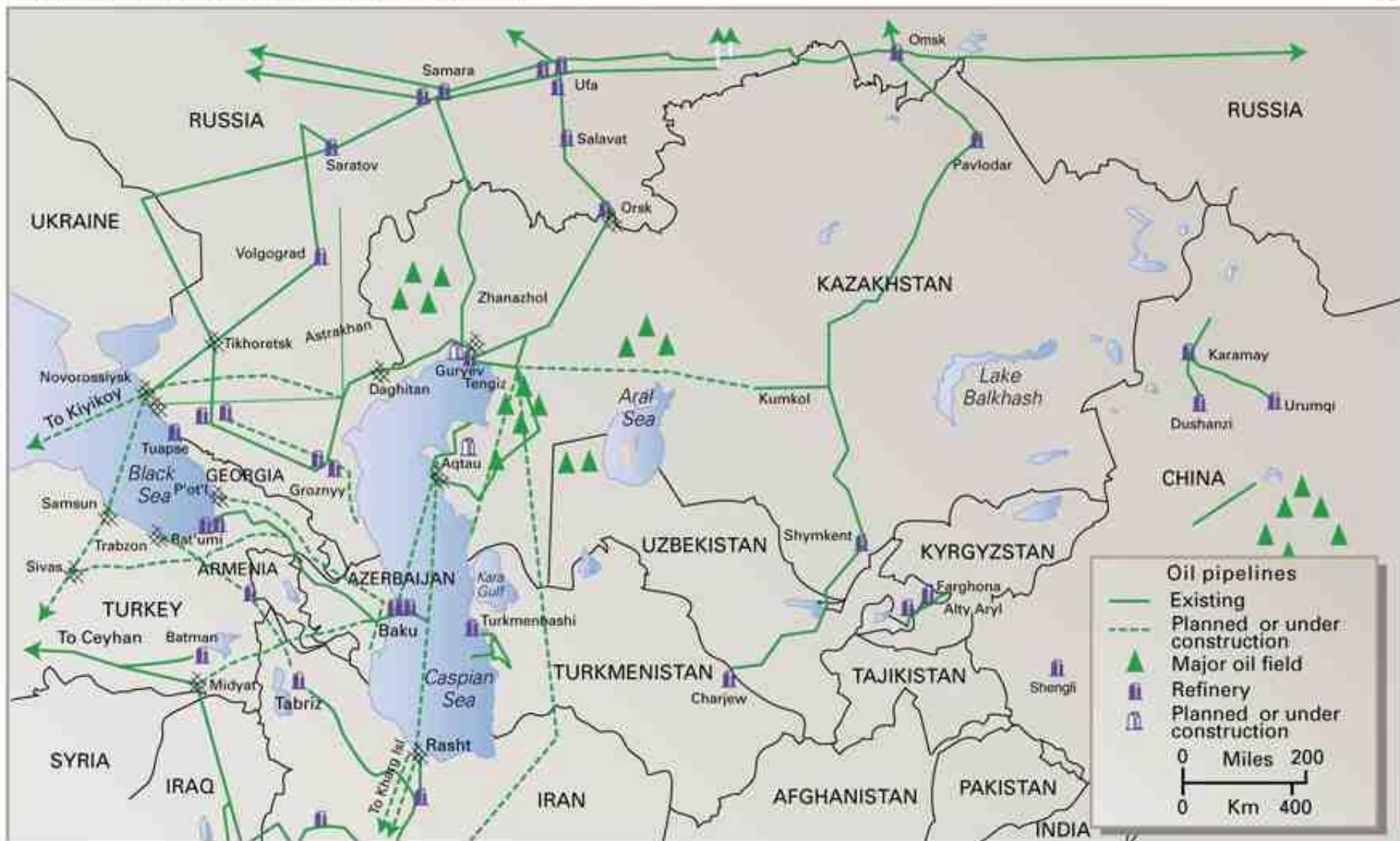
- Kazakhstan is a leader among the Central Asian countries in the amount of proven reserves and the potential for new findings.
- Turkmenistan has large gas reserves (95 to 155 trillion ft³ of gas).

- Uzbekistan does not have a significant amount of oil but contains large amounts of gas (70 to 105 trillion ft³).
- A major trading partner for the regions oil is China as it is very difficult to transport the petroleum to European markets without having access to the sea.

http://www.rice.edu/energy/publications/docs/UnlockingtheAssets_GeologyPetroleumPotentialCentralAsia.pdf

CRUDE OIL INFRASTRUCTURE IN FSU CENTRAL ASIA

Fig. 1

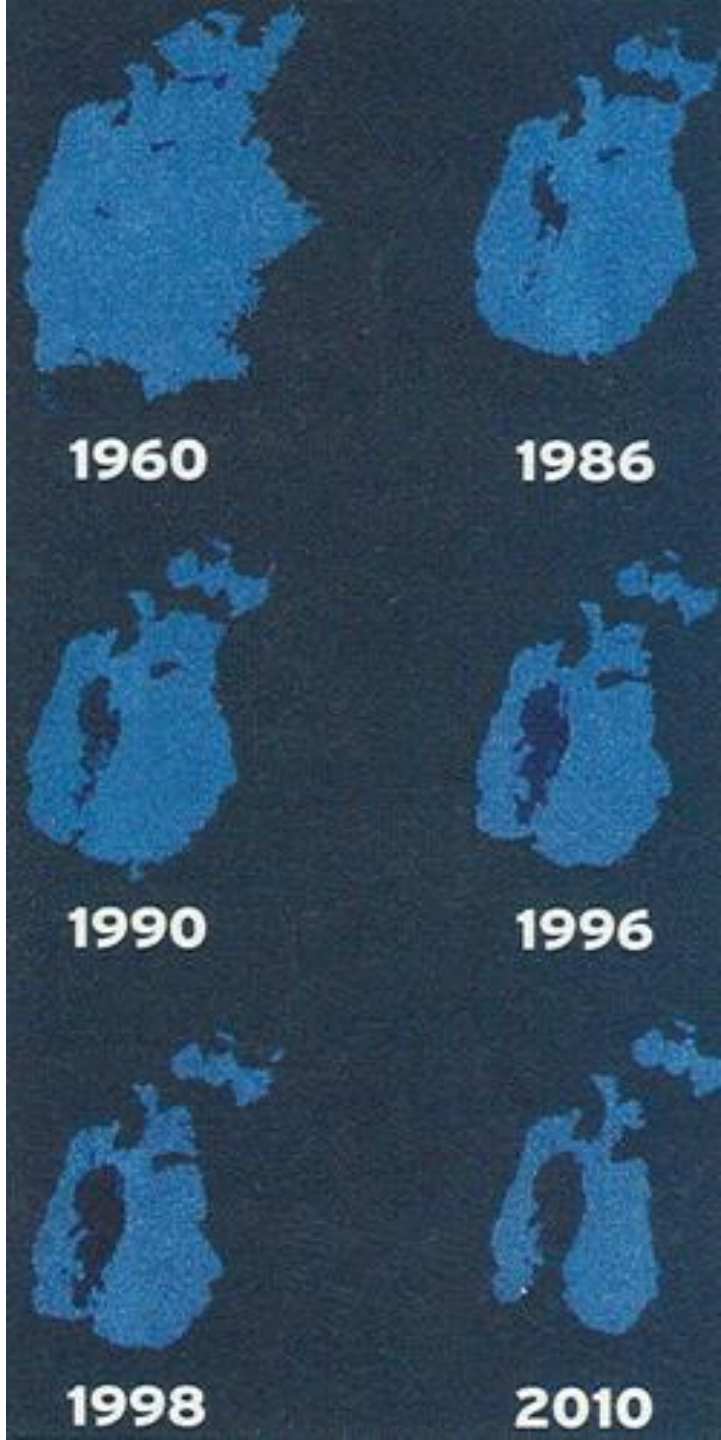


<http://www.users.qwest.net/~kryopak/OilGasNews.htm>

Aral Sea Situation

- The Aral Sea, located in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and is historically a saline lake.
- In 1960 it was the world's fourth largest lake, the size of the entirety of Southern California (at 26,250 square miles, approximately two hundred times larger than the Salton Sea).
- In the past few decades, the Aral Sea's volume has decreased by 75%, the equivalent of draining Lakes Erie and Ontario, and its surface area by 50 percent.

Changes in the Aral Sea





This south looking image (STS51F-0036-0059) of the Aral region was taken from the Space Shuttle on August 6, 1985.

More about the situation concerning the Aral Sea can be found at:
http://visearth.ucsd.edu/VisE_Int/aralsea/aral_map.html

Aral Sea



Why study the Stan's of Central Asia?

- History- Silk Road, Mongolian conquests, spread of Islam
- Economy- Large deposits of petroleum found in the region, two major pipelines are now taking Caspian Sea oil to China
- Security- Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan helped with the war on terror allowing US presence in the early conflict in Afghanistan

- Culture- a combination of eastern and western cultures' have come together in this region
- Education- Thousands of students from Central Asian countries are attending colleges and universities here in the United States. They will take back with them the sights, sounds and friendships from this country.

Thank You
Discussion