ISSN: 2181-1385
Scientific Journal Impact Factor (SJIF) 2021: 5.723
DOI: 10.24412/2181-1385-2021-6-466-471

ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS OF THE ARAL SEA: LEGENDS AND SOLUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

The article is quite different from many other articles of papers, books, on the Aral Sea. It is meant to purposely highlight the reality of the situation in Central Asia: the Aral Sea that was once a thriving body of water is no more. That sea is dead. What does exist in its place are the Aral seas: there are in essence three bodies of water, one of which is being purposefully restored and its level is rising (the Little Aral), and two others which are still marginally connected, although they continue to decline in level (the Big Aral West and the Big Aral East).

Keywords: Aral Sea, Amu Darya, water level, waters, Kazakhstan, Syr darya, Uzbekistan, the Little Aral, Central Asia.