



CHORASMIA

CHORASMIA (Gk. Chorasmiē < OPers. (H)uwārazmiš, Av. Xvāirizəm, later K̅vārazm [Khwārazm], generally derived from *hwāra-zam/zmī-, either “nourishing land” [Burnouf, p. cviii; Sachau, p. 473; Geiger, p. 29; *Pauly-Wissowa* III/2, cols. 2406-08] or “lowland” [Lerch, p. 447; Veselovskii, p. v; Kiepert, no. 60; MacKenzie, *Camb. Hist. Iran* III/2, p. 1244; Bogolyubov, p. 370, has suggested “land with good cattle enclosures,” but this interpretation has not found wide acceptance), region on the lower reaches of the Oxus (Amu Darya) in western Central Asia.

i. *Archaeology and pre-Islamic history*

ii. *In Islamic times*

iii. *The Chorasmian language*

General Bibliography:

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W. Geiger, *Ostiranische Kultur im Altertum*, Erlangen, 1882.

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