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# The Richness and Uniqueness of the Animal World of Uzbekistan

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**Abstract**. This article provides an overview of the diversity of the animal world of Uzbekistan. The article describes the main species of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects living in various natural landscapes of the country. Particular attention is paid to unique and rare species, as well as their ecological role in the biodiversity of Uzbekistan.

**Key words:** *Uzbekistan, fauna, mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, biodiversity.* 

### Introduction

Uzbekistan, located in the center of Central Asia, is a unique combination of diverse natural landscapes inhabited by a variety of animal species. This article is devoted to an overview of the diversity of the animal world of Uzbekistan, including mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. The significance and uniqueness of the country's fauna, as well as its contribution to the biodiversity of Central Asia, is considered. The importance of protecting and conserving Uzbekistan's natural resources for preserving wildlife and maintaining ecological balance is also discussed. Uzbekistan, located in the center of Central Asia, is a unique combination of diverse natural landscapes that provide ideal habitat for a variety of animal species. The country, rich in mountain ranges, deserts, steppes, forests and water basins, is home to many species of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects.[1]

### **Mammals of Uzbekistan:**

One of the most characteristic and unique species of mammals in Uzbekistan is the bighorn sheep, or Uysun, which lives in the mountainous regions of the Tien Shan and Pamirs. With its large and impressive antlers, it is perfectly adapted to the harsh conditions of high mountain pastures.

Another notable fauna is the Turanian tiger, one of the region's largest predators, which lives in desert and semi-desert areas. Despite its majesty, this species has become the object of protection due to the threat of extinction.

#### Birds of Uzbekistan:

Uzbekistan is famous for its diversity of birds that live in various ecosystems of the country. The sugar thrush, which is endemic to the region, lives in mountainous areas and is considered one of the symbols of the bird world of Uzbekistan.

Also worth mentioning is the colorful variety of waterfowl that inhabit the country's lakes, rivers and marshes, such as ducks, gulls, terns and loons.

# Reptiles and other species:

Uzbekistan is also known for its diversity of reptiles, including species like lizards, snakes and turtles, which live in a variety of natural landscapes from mountain gorges to desert plains. In addition, the country is rich in insect diversity, including many species of butterflies, beetles and bees, which play an important role in Uzbekistan's ecosystem.[3]

Uzbekistan is rich in wildlife diversity, including many species of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. Some of the most characteristic animal species in Uzbekistan include:

- 1. Bighorn sheep (Uysun): This large mammal with horns has beautifully adapted to the harsh conditions of the mountainous regions of the Tien Shan and Pamirs.
- 2. Turanian tiger: This species of tiger, found in desert and semi-desert areas, is endangered and is under conservation protection.
- 3. Sugar Thrush: One of the symbols of the bird world of Uzbekistan, this species is endemic to the region and lives in mountainous areas.
- 4. Ussuri Leopard: This rare and beautiful predator is found in mountainous areas, but its numbers are declining due to illegal hunting and habitat loss.
- 5. Caracal: A graceful, magnificently colored cat that lives in desert and semi-desert regions, including the western and southern regions of Uzbekistan.[5]

This is just a small overview of the animal world of Uzbekistan, which offers unique opportunities for studying and protecting biodiversity.

#### **Conclusion:**

The diversity of the animal world of Uzbekistan is one of the country's riches, which should be preserved and protected. Many species of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects live in a variety of natural landscapes, providing biodiversity and supporting the ecosystem. The protection and conservation of this wealth requires joint efforts on the part of government agencies, the scientific community and the public. Effective conservation measures and sustainable use of natural resources not only contribute to the conservation of Uzbekistan's wildlife, but also support the well-being of people and nature in this unique region of Central Asia.

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