

BADLANDS CREATED BY WATER EROSION IN ZONOZ VALLEY IN IRAN

*Dr. Seyed Esmail Asgharpour. Azad University, Shahre Rey Branch Iran
e_asgharpour@yahoo.com*

This study focuses on the badlands created by water erosion in Zonouz valley. Zonouz is a small Iranian village in the East Azerbaijan province of Iran. It is located between two mountain ranges and has very cold and snowy weather in winter and cool summers. River terraces and alluvial fans which were built by Zonouz river are considerably important in that area.

Zonouz river is located on 45 degrees and 49 minutes E longitude and 38 degrees 34 N latitude between Aras river and Marand plain. It derives from Soltan-Sanjar mountain in the east and flows to the west. In Cher-Cher area, it joins to Zilbir river and finally enters to the Caspian sea.

The volume of water varies during the seasons. It reaches to its maximum rate in April and its minimum rate in August. In 1980 the average debit of river was 3.4. After twenty eight years, there is a considerable change in river debit. The purpose of paper is to show the terraces and alluvial fans before building the dam on the river bank.

Flow of water in the area plays a major role in creating landforms. Thus fluvial processes are the geomorphic process associated with running water and fluvial landforms and landscapes are produced by streams Rivers degrade {erode} and aggrade {deposit}. Hence, the landscape contains degradational or erosional landforms which are created when rock is removed. Depositional landforms are resulted from the accumulation of sediment. Badland of Zonouz is an example of such an erosional landscape. Resistant material on hills gave a beautiful shape to the hills.