

# IRONMAKING

Making various objects — such as hoes, mowers, *tesha* and other household items, is called ironmaking. The emergence of Ironmaking goes back to the ancient history of humanity. In the territory of Uzbekistan Ironmaking works are carried out in special shops. At the blacksmith's shop, the oven, *qura, supa, ura, chupkunda*; and instruments *sandons, bosqon*, hammers, bulls, eaves, mills, and others are used. The blacksmith smokes iron on a firebug and warms it into the metal cluster when it becomes a white color and he puts it in the *sandon* and hooks it until it reaches the required shape.

This is done by the master, the *bosqonchi* and the *damghir*. Blacksmith profession is mastered by the master-apprentice system. Despite the industrial develop-

ment, the main reason for survival of this profession is the lack of industrial output of domestic household items and the unsatisfactory quality of the production. The blacksmith makes each item separate, at the same time taking into account the wishes of the buyer and, if necessary, changes the product according to the wishes of the customer.

The master blacksmith knows what kind of metal to use and how well to heat this metal and how much water to give and teaches these secrets to his apprentices. At present, Uzbekistan has blacksmith stores not only in major cities, but also in districts. Most of the blacksmiths working in such major cities as Margilan, Samarkand, Bukhara and Tashkent are representatives of dynasties who continue the work of their ancestors.



