

KHARAN DESERT



The Karan Desert is a vast desert situated in the Balochistan province in south-western Pakistan. This sandy and mountainous region also served as a site of Pakistan's second nuclear test, Chagai-II, which was carried out on 30 May 1998. The region has a dry climate. The inhabitants of the region are usually into agriculture and farming. The terrain is mainly dry, gray-brown sand that stretches out. Although the Balochistan region is characterized by harsh and dry climatic conditions, the Kharan desert can be separated from the rest of the arid landscape due to its sandy nature and even terrain, ranging from 1000 m in the north-east to 500 m in the west. The desert is situated in the Kharan District, covering an area of around 20,000 sq km with a population of only 0.23 million. In the north, east, and west it is surrounded by beautiful hills, up to 3000 meters, while on the west it extends into Iranian territories.