

Modification of Argillous Raw Materials by Additives Comprising Carbonates

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In order to improve technological and drying properties of argillaceous raw materials and to produce face brick of light color shades from low-melt and red-burning clay, a modification of carbonate-containing additive, in a form of oil-slime utilization product, was carried out. An influence of a concentration of an additive on structure and properties of a modified mixture is discussed. Structure of ceramics and chemical composition of minerals formed during burning is studied, their influence and an influence of organic component of the additive on a change of color and properties of ceramic brick, manufactured by means of plastic molding method, are identified.

Key words: Argillous raw, drying, carbonates, plastic molding method.

In the presented paper an influence of modifier for ceramic mixtures in a form of petroleum oils utilization product (OUP) on main properties of ceramic bricks, depending on chemical and mineral composition of raw materials, was studied.

Petroleum oil utilization product (“Poroshok mineral’ni PUN”) is a mineral powder, produced by means of processing of oil-slime, taken from lower (bottom) layer of sludge tanks, using burned lime.

Its external appearance is uniform in composition and color, friable, hydrophobic, partially clotted powdered mineral particles with an organic component, absorbed on a surface: microparticles consist of calcium hydroxide with

oil slime, which is uniformly absorbed on a surface and filling pore structure in an entire volume.

Mineral part of OUP (Fig.1) consists of quartz (16%), calcite (12%), portlandite Ca(OH)_2 (approximately 22-25%), clay minerals (up to 20%), also, traces of dolomite (up to 1%) and feldspars (up to 4%) are detected. X-Ray amorphous phase constitutes, approximately, 10-16%

A comparative modification of clay raw materials was carried out on clays of two deposits, which have virtually the same clay minerals and impurities (table 1), but differ in chemical composition (table 2). Clay of Cheboksary deposit consists more clay-forming minerals as compared to clay of Klyuchishenskoe deposit, and contains 2 times bigger amount of iron oxide Fe_2O_3 .

Organic-mineral additive was introduced into ceramic mixture up to 50% by weight in a form of finely dispersed powder with degree of dispersion of $28900 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$.

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Despite of the fact, that the studied substance was produced by means of processing of waste product (oil-slime), comparative analysis of OUP, collected in 2007 and 2012, demonstrated a quite high stability of chemical composition, which follows from the data in table 3.

X-Ray diffraction quantitative analysis of OUP and clay raw materials was carried out using Bruker D8 Advance X-Ray diffraction analysis device. The study of chemical compositions of specimens was carried out with use of induction-bound plasma emission spectrometer OPTIMA 2000DV.

Characteristics of formed structures, obtained during burning at 1100⁰!, were studied by scanning electron microscope REM-100U with x-ray energy dispersion analyzer EDAR, which allows to conduct quantitative element analysis.

RESULTS

OUP was selected as a multifunctional modifying additive, because of its mass-production, high content of CaO, presence of clay minerals in the mineral component and high specific surface area of mineral powder. In a process of testing OUP demonstrated properties of strong anti-shrinkage additive and whitening additive.

Organic component of the additive must have a positive influence on a formation of structure during burning. That's why we conduct studies on organic component of OUP by means of extraction by kerosene, thermal analysis of the studied material before and after an extraction by kerosene of filler, which contains waste materials of oil production, as well as an obtained extracted material, was carried out.

Table 1.Phase composition of the studied clays

Specimen	Components of phases, %
Clay of Klyuchishenskoe deposit	Quartz–37, calcium feldspar–12, plagioclase–11, smectite (contains up to 30% of nonswelling layers of mica)–26, mica–7, kaolin+chlorite–3, calcite–1, dolomite–1, amphibole–2
Clay of Cheboksary deposit	Quartz–31, calcium feldspar–6, plagioclase–17, smectite (contains up to 30% of nonswelling layers of mica)–31, mica–7, kaolin+chlorite–5, calcite–2, dolomite–1, serpentine minerals–traces

Table 2. Chemical composition of the studied clays

Deposit	% content relatively to weight of an absolutely dry sample												
	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	FeO	MnO	CaO	MgO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅	SO ₃	Ignition losses
Klyuchishenskoe	79.20	0.37	7.03	3.07	0.21	0.05	1.12	1.17	0.77	1.65	0.11	<0.05	4.86
Cheboksary	62.15	0.97	17.00	6.89	0.39	0.06	0.80	1.32	0.88	3.88	0.17	<0.05	5.77

Table 3. Chemical composition of petroleum oils utilization product

Waste product	% content relatively to weight of an absolutely dry sample													
	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	FeO	CaO	MnO	MgO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅	SO ₃	Cr ₂ O ₃	Ignition losses
Petroleum oils utilization product in 2007	24.18	0.32	5.77	2.46	0.56	29.44	0.07	1.60	0.89	0.84	0.09	0.78	-	33,00
Petroleum oils utilization product in 2012	28.55	0.32	6.22	3.71	27.95	0.11	2.27	1.22	1.04	0.18	0.51	-	27.89	

Table 4. OUP thermal data analysis

No.	Specimen	Water content,%	OS, %	F _s
1	OUP	3.1	10	0.7
2	OUP after extraction by kerosene	2.3	5	0.5
3	extracted material	-	100	0.6

Table 5. Phase composition of ceramic specimens

Number of sample	Mineral content, %						
	Quartz	Feldspar	X-Ray amorphous phase	pyrop	ediopside	helenite	hematite
Cheboksary clay	52	11	19			7	11
Cheboksary clay+25% OUP	20	32	7	4	20	11	2
Cheboksary clay+50% OUP	14	20	29	1	16	17	<2
Klyuchishenskoe clay	45	16	33				6
Klyuchishenskoe +25% OUP	23	32	8		20	12	3
Klyuchishenskoe +25% OUP	23	27	28		15	5	<2

Table 6. Results of energy dispersion analysis of ceramic specimen

Elements content, %	Specimen on a basis of Klyuchishenskoe clay	Specimen on a basis of Klyuchishenskoe clay+25% of additive
Ca	0.42	12.85
Fe	2.47	2.42
Si	33.77	14.01
	Specimen on a basis of Cheboksary clay	Specimen on a basis of Cheboksary clay+25% of additive
Ca	0.55	9.23
Fe	5.70	2.66
Si	17.59	13.96

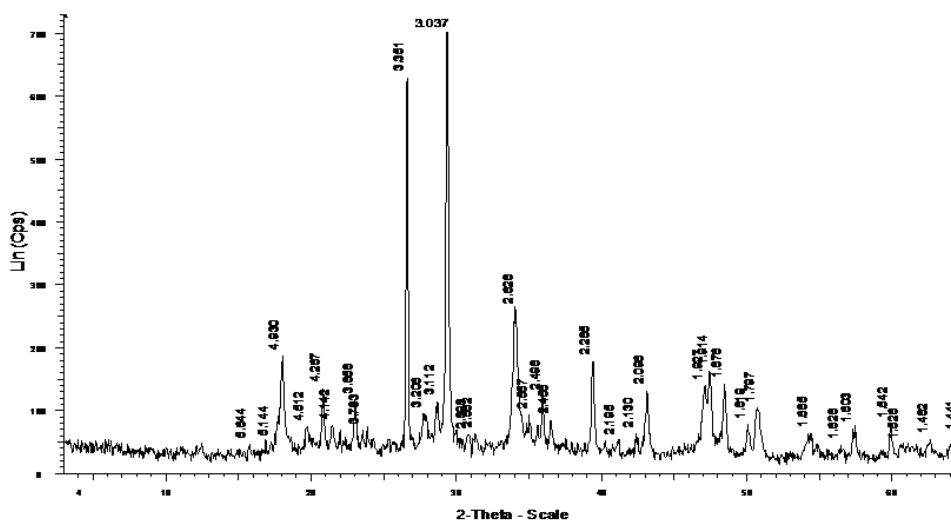


Fig. 1. Oil slime utilization product X-Ray diffraction spectrum

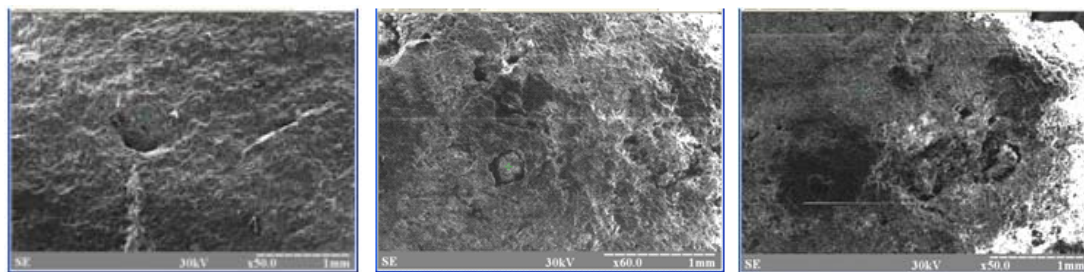


Fig. 2. Microphotograph of ceramic sample made from Cheboksary clay (without additive, 25%, 50% OUP)

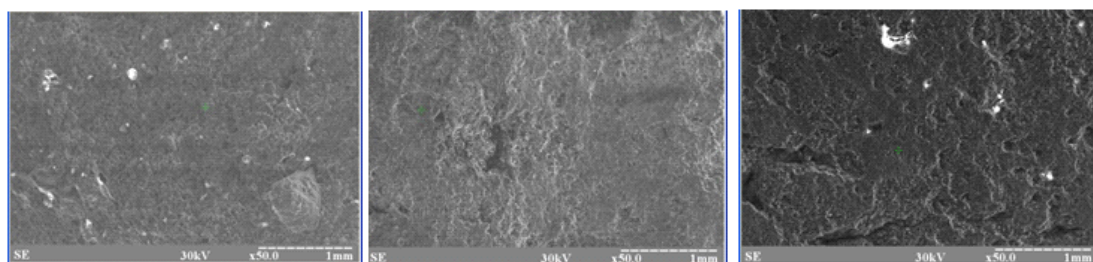


Fig. 2. Microphotograph of ceramic sample made from Klyuchishenskoe clay (without additive, 25%, 50% OUP)

Results of the studies of the products (initial OUP, OUP after extraction, extracted material) obtained by means of thermal analysis method in temperature range of 20-1000°! with heating speed of a furnace equal to 10°!/min are presented. Data on water content, content of organic substance (OS) and factor of fractions of particle size distribution F_s is presented in table 4.

Phase structure of burned specimens is presented in table 5:

Elemental composition of burned specimens was obtained by means of energy dispersion analysis (table 6). Results are obtained at samples that were chipped off in a central part of burned specimens.

DISCUSSION

Analysis of structure's microphotographs showed, that not modified specimens have relatively dense surface, which consists of melted uneven mass (Fig.1 and Fig.2). Glassy fragments of various shape are detected. Neoformations of granular shape and sizes of 10 ÷ 150 μm , which appeared as a result of burning, are distribute unevenly. Local inclusions with diameter from 100 to 800 μm and cracks are with 1000 μm length are detected. Elemental composition consists, mainly, of silicious phase (Si: 11-25% in a

specimen made from Cheboksary clay and 24-32% in a specimen made from Klyuchishenskoe clay), background elements are O, Mg, Al, Si, K, Ca, Fe, Ti.

25% of OUP additive facilitate a formation of system of pores (with diameter up to 50 μm), local cavities (with diameter up to 400 μm) and rounded aggregates with a tendency for mechanical destruction and further formation of half-spherical elements of microrelief of «crater» or «caldera» type. In spectres, obtained by microprobe analysis of that inclusions, increased calcium content (6-21%) was detected.

A surface of specimens with 50% of an additive has loose, spongy structure, which is related with a large number of pores and caverns that are clearly visible in the chips. There is a tendency for an increase of Ca content (6-16%) relatively to Si (1-15%).

Previously, on an example of one type of raw materials, it was established, that a component, containing calcium, leads to a formation of various types of structures on a surface and in a volume of a sample^{16,17}.

Analysis of mineral structure of burned specimens (table 5) demonstrated that specimens made from clay contain a large proportion of X-Ray amorphous phase, at the same time, in specimens of Cheboksary clay 11% of hematite and

7% of helenite are detected. Hematite content, which is related with a presence of iron oxide, in all case of OUP introduction was decreasing, at that, it was detected, that in all specimens diopside had appeared and content of helenite had increased.

Results of energy dispersion analysis (table 6) allow to conclude, that structure formation for two types of clays occurs in a different manner. For Klyuchishenskoe clay based specimens it was established¹⁶, that burning of not modified clays, when red ceramics is formed, Fe content on a surface is dominating. Carbonate-containing additive makes Fe content on a surface minimal, which results in whitening of ceramics¹⁸. In a case of Cheboksary clay, iron content on a surface and in a whole volume of a specimen is of one order.

Table 6 data shows, that OUP modification of Cheboksary clay leads to a rapid decrease of Fe content, i.e., despite of a large amount of Fe in burned ceramics of an initial clay, OUP introduction results in virtually the same amounts of Fe in specimens, produced from two different types of clays. It indicates that Fe-containing minerals in a case of Cheboksary clay mainly concentrate in surface layers of specimens. It determines a lesser level of whitening in modified specimens based on Cheboksary clay.

A recalculation from an element composition to a content of oxide Fe_2O_3 , SiO_2 leads to a conclusion, that $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{SiO}_2$ ratio is many times lower in the ceramics made from not modified clay as compared to clay, containing carbonates, which explains a detected decrease of mechanical strength in a case of modification. At the same time, it is detected, that surface structures are stronger, than internal ones, both in modified and not modified specimens. That fact can be explained by a partial pores' formation in internal areas (visible decrease of specimens is detected) because of burning out of an organic component¹⁹. That data is supported by a comparative analysis of an organic component of OUP.

Values of organic composition factor of more than 0.5 can be explained by a predominant content in a composition of an organic substance of oils and resins as compared to asphaltenes. At the same time, in OUP powder after an extraction by kerosene there is almost a half of organic fraction, which more rich of asphaltenes, which are insoluble in kerosene. The obtained extracted

material has $F=0.6$. Basing on that data it can be said that the extracted material is a heavy organic substance with 0.9736 g/cm^3 density and 644.1 cSt viscosity, at that, highly oxidized: non-soluble in kerosene organic part in OUP constitutes 5% (table 4), which correlates with the data of weight method for determining organic component. Heavy fractions burn out only at temperatures higher than 400°C , which, undoubtedly, will influence processes of structure's formation during burning.

CONCLUSION

In the presented paper a positive influence of calcium-containing compounds of optimal concentration on burning processes and properties of burned facing brick of «light» shade from low-melt and red-burning widely spread types of clays. However, in order to achieve uniform volumetric coloration and avoid an increase of porosity and, as a consequence, an increase of water absorption and decrease of frost resistance of burned ceramic products, it is necessary to additionally modify the mixture by additives, intensifying sintering. In addition, it is necessary to carry out an optimization of burning regimes in order to decompose calcite CaCO_3 , portlandite Ca(OH)_2 , which is introduced together with calcium-containing additive, which will lead to a formation of anorthite with a low content of a ratio of $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{SiO}_2$ in structure, instead of detected diopside and helenite. Anorthite has high mechanical strength and chemical stability among all known calcium compounds with crystal lattice.

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