

INFORMATION ON BUKHARA – AFGHANISTAN RELATIONS
(based on the documents of the Turkestan General Governor's Office)

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Annotation

In the history of the peoples of the world, there are few regions that have significant historical importance in terms of their position. One of such centers of civilization is the ancient and ever-popular Bukhara. According to archival documents of the republic of Uzbekistan an attempt was made to depict the history of Bukhara Emirate. In this article we consider the matter of interrelation with Afghanistan in the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. All the facts concerning relations between Bukhara and Afghanistan are founded on the papers of Turkestan General-governor Office.

Keywords: Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Significant historical importance, archival documents, papers of Turkestan General-governor Office, the matter of interrelation, the trade relations, name of nobility, conflicts arise, the territorial disputes, fully dependent.

INTRODUCTION

The opinion of the First President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, that "Bukhara is one of the holy places that has been worthy of the name of nobility, which has been making a great contribution to the development of world thought, spiritual, cultural and religious values of our country for thousands of years" – is one of the high evaluations given to the history of Bukhara. [1]

If the people of the East highly appreciate Bukhara as a center that laid the foundation stone for the study of the Islamic world, the whole Western world understood Bukhara as Central Asia. Among the many sources of information on the history of Bukhara, Antonio Jenkinson, who was in Bukhara as a representative of the British "Moscow" company, is one of the first Europeans to provide information about the Khanate of Bukhara at the end of the 16th century.

The traveler evaluated: "Bukhara as a large city and a city in Bactria, surrounded by a high wall, with its own markets depending on the production of handicraft products". [2]

MAIN PART

Bukhara served as an economic center in the trade relations of the peoples of Central Asia with Eastern countries. Antonio Jenkinson assessed Bukhara as a city in Bactria. Considering that the territory of ancient Bactria included the regions of southern Tajikistan, Surkhandarya and northern Afghanistan, later these regions were included in the Bukhara Emirate and included in its economic, political and foreign relations. As a result, conflicts arise with the Bukhara Emirate and Afghanistan over the issue of northern Afghanistan. Therefore, after the second half of the 19th century, relations between Afghanistan and the Emirate of Bukhara took a new direction. The reason is that from the second half of the 19th century, the territory of Turkestan was included in the sphere of political and economic interests of Tsarism. As a result of active military operations, the whole of Central Asia was

conquered in almost 20 years. As a result of the implemented measures, the Emirate of Bukhara was preserved, but in practice it operated as a fully dependent state of the General Governorship of Turkestan.

As a result of the administration system established by Tsarism in Turkestan, the relations of the people of the country with the neighboring countries, formed for a long time, also changed. In particular: in accordance with the decision of the Russian State Council on November 12, 1885, the system of "Political Agency of the Russian Empire" was introduced in Bukhara from January 1886. This organization operated with the status of the state office of Tsarist Russia in Bukhara. The political agency was considered to be an organization under consular authority that controlled all activities in the Bukhara Emirate, including diplomatic relations with foreign countries.

Bukhara's relations with neighboring Afghanistan are directly controlled by the Turkestan General Governorate. Therefore, the sources related to this issue are collected from the information stored in the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan I-1 (Court of the Turkestan General Governorate), I-2 (official of the Diplomatic Department of the Turkestan General Governorate), I-3 (Political Agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara) can be obtained. For example: on May 4, 1884, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs N.K.Girs, in his letter to the Governor-General of Turkestan Rosenbach, gives information about the relations between Bukhara and Afghanistan.

According to him, in the documents related to the negotiations between the Russian and British governments in 1872-1873, the Emirate of Bukhara owned the territories between the Turkestan General Governorate and Afghanistan under the influence of Great Britain. The lands between the Emirate of Bukhara and Afghanistan occupied a large area from a geographical point of view. This area has been very poorly managed in terms of providing border services. A large part of the territories bordering Afghanistan, included in the Turkestan General Governorate, formed by the Transcaspian region, and information about their mutual relations can be obtained from the annual reports of the military governors of the Transcaspian region.

The border issue of Bukhara Emirate and Afghanistan relations was determined in the Anglo-Russian negotiations of 1872-1873. According to the agreement, the territory of Afghanistan, which belonged to its emir Sher Ali Khan at that time, was included. Compared to them, the Russian government agrees to the demands of the Afghan Amir according to the request of the British government on October 17, 1872: 1. Badakhshan and the eastern part of Sari-Kul lake adjacent to it, the confluence of the Kokcha river with the Amudarya, and the Vakhon regions. 2. Afghan Turkistan, that is, the northernmost part of the territories belonging to Sher Ali Khan - Kunduz, Khulm, Balkh - these territories are the lands on the left bank of Amudarya; 3. Okhcha, Saripul, Maiman, Shiburg'an and Andkhai regions were included. It is determined that these designated areas must be taken into account for the Emirate of Bukhara in their relations with Afghanistan. Because the regions bordering these regions belong to the Bukhara Emirate, and their neighborly relations were also different. Afghan emirs also claimed lands in the southern regions of Bukhara Emirate. [3]

According to this source, the Russian government did not have enough information about the relations of Bukhara Emirate with Afghanistan in the following years. Even Amir Muzaffar hid information about relations with Afghanistan from the administration of the General Governorate of Turkestan. Therefore, it was stated that the employees of the agency, which should start working in Bukhara, should pay more attention to this issue. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, the Governor-General of Turkestan acknowledged that the relations between Bukhara and Afghanistan have been unchanged for 11 years after the agreements, and have always been based on mutual

respect. In the letter sent by the emir of Bukhara, Said Muzaffar, to Tashkent through his ambassadors, he stated that the relations with Afghanistan have not changed and that the opinions about the territorial disputes in the middle are incorrect.

The wrong ideas were that the British government representatives informed the Russian diplomats that the residents of Shugnan province were dissatisfied with the oppression of the Afghan rulers and asked for help from the emir of Bukhara Said Muzaffar. It is known that the chiefs of Afghan Badakhshan understood Shugnan as a province subject to them. Therefore, Russian Foreign Minister N.K.Girs demands from the Governor-General of Turkestan to take measures to get the Emir of Bukhara to withdraw from any conflicts with Afghanistan in any case. [4]

The arrival of Abdurakhman Khan Sardar to power in Afghanistan in 1880 also affected mutual relations. According to information, in 1869, Sardar Abdurakhmon Khan, who was defeated in the struggle for the throne of Afghanistan with his uncle Sherali Khan, came to Central Asia and began to live in Tashkent with the approval of the Tsar's government. The administration of Chorizm assigns him an annual pension in the amount of 25,000 rubles. [5]

This source testified that Abdurakhman Khan was given refuge in Turkestan because the tsarist authorities believed that he would be able to establish a central government that could oppose the British in Afghanistan, a weakly guarded border. That is why the Governor-General of Turkestan K.P. Kaufman in 1880 gave great financial support to Abdurakhman Khan's return to Afghanistan. The goal was to strengthen the influence of Tsarism in Afghanistan. However, Abdurakhman Khan did not fight the British, but instead signed a treaty and received the consent of the British government to become the emir of Afghanistan. For this, Abdurakhman Khan had to conduct a policy against Russia, in exchange for which the British paid him 1,800,000 rupees annually.

During the period of the former Soviets, scientists of Moscow University gave information about the history of Afghanistan in the 19th century, which may have been the reason for the book "Afghanistan in the 19th century", published in Kabul in 1951 by the Afghan historian scientist Said Qasim Rishti based on many historical sources. Because the Afghan historian gave interesting information about Abdurakhman Khan's return from Central Asia and taking power. [6]

The analysis of the data in the sources shows that during the reign of Abdurakhman Khan, the emir of Afghanistan, his main activities were focused on uniting the scattered Afghan peoples. As a result, an independent centralized state was established, independent of imperialist countries. Abdurrahman, who was the emir of Afghanistan since 1880, while conducting his independent policy, according to the information about his relations with the people of the northern regions of the country, one of them is the report of the military governor of the Transcaspian region. In 1898, lieutenant-general Bogolyubov observed that most of them settled in the Transcaspian region. [7]

V. Minorsky, acting as the head of the Diplomatic Department of the General Governorate of Turkestan, gave the following information in his letter to the head of the country on July 13, 1909: In 1888, Isaq Khan, a relative of the Afghan emir Abdurakhman Khan, tried to stage a coup d'état in northern Afghanistan, using the Emir's illness. However, Abdurakhman Khan's troops will win. Isoqkhan takes refuge from the Russian government. After his request was fulfilled, he lived in the city of Samarkand until the end of his life. [8]

According to the information of the Imperial Political Agency of the Bukhara Emirate on June 26, 1909, the military governor of Samarkand province, in his letter sent to the political agency on May 16, 1909, said that Isaq Khan had died in 1909 and that his son Muhammad Shuayb-Khan would visit Bukhara on personal business. In the reply letter of the political agency employee to the military

governor of Samarkand region and the head of the diplomatic department V. F. Minorsky, the details of the arrival of Muhammad Shuayb-Khan, the son of the deceased Ishaq Khan, to Bukhara are given. According to him, Muhammad Shuyab-Khan will meet with the representative of the imperial political agency in Bukhara. The eldest son of Ishaqkha, Muhammed Ismail Khan, also comes with him. They request a meeting with the Qushbegi of the Bukhara Emirate.

Is'khak Khan's sons ask the representative of the political agency to welcome them as the official representative of Afghanistan. However, the representative of the political agency rejects the offer as their visit is personal. In the meeting with Kushbegi, Ishaq Khan's sons ask him to help in exchanging some valuable items for money. However, after receiving a refusal from the emir, they leave the city of Bukhara. [9]

According to sources, as a result of internal conflicts during the reign of the Afghan Emir Abdurakhman Khan, Afghan residents moved to the southern regions of the Bukhara Emirate. For example: in 1900, the territory of the Bukhara Emirate was informed about the location of the Turkmen tribes from the Char region in Afghanistan (the Char region is Mazori - Sharif, Sarikul, Shiburg'an and Andhoi districts). [10]

The military governors of the Transcaspian region also provided information on the migration of people from Afghanistan in their annual reports. Trade relations also occupy a special place in the relations of Bukhara Emirate with Afghanistan. In 1877, experts consisting of tsarism officials Mayev, Trepekovsky, and Kulganov study the English-Indian tea trade in the Bukhara Emirate.

As a result of the investigation, the assistant editor-in-chief of "Turkestan Gazette", lieutenant colonel Mayev, in his report to the Governor-General of Turkestan K.P. Kaufman about ways to suppress the Anglo-Indian tea trade in Turkestan, gives the following information: It provides complete information about the tea brought to Bukhara from India, how it travels until it arrives from Kabul, the number of tea caravans in Bukhara, varieties of tea, and their prices.

CONCLUSION

According to him, tea from India was delivered from Calcutta to Peshawar by English trade organizations. From there in camel caravans he came to Kabul, Tashkurgan, passing through the Amudarya river to Kalif, then to Karshi and then to Bukhara. Tea was bought from Almor, Deredun, Ambarsar in India, because they were bought there at a low price. According to Maev, almost all products coming from India through Afghanistan are brought to Bukhara. From there it was distributed to other areas of the General Governorate. [11]

In conclusion, the analysis of the sources on the relationship between the Emirate of Bukhara and Afghanistan indicates that there were mutual territorial conflicts. At the same time, the trade relations between the two countries continued on the basis that was established earlier.

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