
Activities of the political agency of the Russian empire in the emirate of Bukhara

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Abstract: We know that in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the Tsarist government pursued military action against the Bukhara Emirate not only for political, military and strategic reasons, but also for economic interests.

The establishment of the political agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara on the basis of the order of the Russian tsar in January 1886 subjected him to interference in the internal affairs of Bukhara due to his control over the emirs and ministers of Bukhara even passed into his hands the appointment of officers and officials of the Bukhara state. This shows that the Government of Tsarist Russia and its administrators in the Turkic country gradually entered the economy of the emirate of Bukhara and gained full control over it. In the research work, these same processes are analyzed on the basis of Russian State Archive of Military History sources and literature.

Keywords: Political agency, Russian empire, Bukhara, Tsarist government

RESEARCH METHODS AND THE DEGREE OF THE STUDY

The research is based on the principles of generally accepted historical methods - historical, comparative and logical analysis, consistency, objectivity. It examines Russian-Bukhara relations, historical sources reflecting the activities of the political agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara, as well as an analysis of many studies conducted by researchers during the years of independence, as well as many other sources involved in the research.

From the second half of the 19th century, Tsarist Russia conquered the Central Asian khanates, established the Governor-General of Turkestan in these areas, and introduced a military-administrative system. The Emirate of Bukhara and the Khiva Khanate became dependent states of Tsarist Russia. Due to the military rule system in the country, all official information, correspondence and documents related to this period were sent directly to the Ministry of Defense of Russia and its affiliated organizations. That is why most of these documents are still kept in the Russian State Archive of Military History to this day. The study and analysis of archival documents stored in the funds of the Russian State Archive of Military History showed that this archive contains many valuable official documents, information and maps on the history of the Bukhara Emirate of the second half of the XIX century, the beginning of the XX century, and they are kept in good condition. Study these rare documents and put them into scientific circulation, first of all, the history of the Bukhara Emirate in the second half of the XIX century and the beginning of the XX century provides a broader opportunity for a comprehensive study of the relations between Bukhara and Russia in this period. Basic information on the history of the Bukhara Emirate in the second half of the XIX century, early XX century and Russian-Bukhara relations is registered in the Fund 400, (General Staff), Fund 1396 (Turkestan Military District Headquarters), Fund 1 (Office of the Ministry of Defense), 404- Fund (Military-Topographic Department of the General Staff), Fund 483 (Collections of Military Expeditions in Central Asia), Fund 1393 (Field March Headquarters of the Turkestan Military District), Fund 1432 (Samarkand Regional Army Headquarters) of the Russian State Archive of Military History . There is information on the establishment of a Russian consulate and a Russian political agency in Bukhara (Fund 400, List 1, Case 878) and a study of the correspondence and agreements on Russian government's construction of a railway line along the Amu Darya with Bukhara (400 fund, list 24, case 879) , information on the opening of local government in Panj district (fund 400, list 1, case 1024), correspondence of ambassadors of Bukhara (fund 400, 24 -list, case 1451), information on the arrival of Indian and Afghan goods in Bukhara in 1890 (fund 400, Asian section, case 105), on the budget of the Emirate of Bukhara and Russian settlements in Bukhara (fund 400, list 1, 4458 case) in the Russian State Archive of Military History .

These facts and data are extremely important today, in terms of their value and importance. After all, such information and facts help to shed more light and truthful analysis of our history, including the history of the Bukhara Emirate in the late XIX and early XX centuries.

Analyzing the literature on the subject, as a result of research conducted by the scholars of our republic during the years of independence, many works have appeared. They differ from previous works in that they are based

on new methodological approaches and are considered in terms of national and universal interests and the criteria of historical truth.

O. Masalieva's article "Some aspects of the history of the Bukhara Khanate" discusses some aspects of the history of the Bukhara Khanate (Emirate) in the twentieth century. The history of the Bukhara Khanate (Emirate) is based on oriental studies. The fact that orientalist pay great attention to the study of documents and oriental manuscripts highlights the fact that a number of scholars, such as A. Semyonov, A. Fitrat, P. Ivanov, O. Chekhovich, M. Abduraimov, A. Vildanova, introduced a number of labels and correspondence into scientific use.

Boltaev's article "From the history of the construction of the building of the Russian political agency in Bukhara" states that the establishment of a political agency of the Russian Empire, which first began its work in the old Bukhara, Ark, and then moved to New Bukhara (Kogon). The construction of the building dates back to the end of the 1890s, when political agent N. Charykov left and was replaced by P.M. Lessar. Lessar notes that he took control of the construction work and that an agreement was signed with the Bukhara government on the buildings to be built in New Bukhara (Kogon) for the political agency of the Russian Empire with engineer Gaberfeld. The author also states that the political agency of the Russian Empire, according to the Charter signed by Tsar Nicholas, has the right to full dialogue with the government of Bukhara on all political and economic issues, which became a decisive factor in the implementation of tsarist colonial policy in the emirate [1].

During the years of independence, in the CIS and Central Asian countries, have been created articles that reflect issues close to the topic under the study. In the article by O.A. Chernov "Activity of Russian political agent N.V. Charykov in Bukhara Emirate"[2], analyzed the activity of N.V. Charykov, who worked as a political agent of the Russian Empire in the Emirate of Bukhara, had the right to full dialogue with the Bukhara government on all political and economic issues. During his activity, he made effective efforts to protect Russia's interests in the territory of the Emirate of Bukhara.

Tajik historian J.H. Jurabaev in his study "Study of the political history of the Bukhara Emirate in the Soviet and post-Soviet period" tries to shed light on the historiography of Soviet and post-Soviet historical works on various aspects of the history of the Bukhara Khanate. The author's research includes the analysis of fundamental works of historians of the Soviet era, reflecting the political and economic relations of the Bukhara Khanate, the life of the population, lifestyle, various forms of land tenure, the state of agriculture, crafts and other areas [3].

Research work of O.A. Kilichev "Correspondence between the Russian Imperial Political Agency and the Emirate of Bukhara, a source for studying the history of Russian-Bukhara relations" analyses activities of the Political Agency of the Russian Emperor and the Office of the Emirate of Bukhara, as well as the process of intergovernmental correspondence (procedure for registration, translation and approval of letters), types of papers and methods of their differentiation are defined. In the correspondence, the seals of the staff of the political agency of the Russian emperor with oriental shape and content, the sphragistic (geometric shape and inscriptions of the seal diameter) of signatures and stamps were made [4].

As a result of the final analysis of the historiography of the research topic, it should be noted that this topic has not been studied in depth enough, and the dominant ideology of the former Soviet regime did not allow a scientifically sound, historically objective study of this topic.

RESEARCH RESULTS

After the Tsarist Russian government occupied large areas of the Bukhara Emirate and allowed the emirate to remain in the remaining territories, it tried in various ways to establish its political, military, and economic dominance over the Bukhara Emirate.

Especially after the signing of the agreements of 1868 and 1873, when the influx of Russian citizens into the territory of Bukhara increased, the attention to this issue became even more intense. First of all, the Tsarist Russian government and its officials in Turkestan paid great attention to preventing the intensification of Anglo-Russian competition in the Middle East, gaining full dominance in the domestic markets of Bukhara and supporting the activities of Russian citizens in the emirate.

The fact that Bukhara retained its independence just in the name was very helpful to the government of Tsarist Russia. Because reforming the Turkestan region in every field required a lot of effort and money from the Russian government. Tsarism had set the emirate to serve its own interests, gradually, at no great expense, by completely subordinating its economy to its colonial policy, while maintaining its official internal independence. In short, the main task of the policy of tsarism was to ensure the gradual unification of the Central Asian states with the empire.

Russian traders, who have been trading in the Emirate of Bukhara since the 1980s, have urged the Russian government and its Turkestan officials to further strengthen their position in the Bukhara domestic market and protect their rights, began to require officials to develop suitable measures.

In particular, on September 30, 1883, a group of traders and businessmen in Tashkent wrote a letter to the Governor-General of Turkestan asking him to support them and provide the Russian government with practical assistance and consent in establishing trade consulates in Khiva, Bukhara and Kabul [5].

The original copy of this letter was personally sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on November 25, 1883 by the Governor-General of Turkestan, Lieutenant-General Chernyaev [6].

Lieutenant General Chernyaev added in an annex to the letter that the Ministry of Defense is also interested in the opening of these trade consulates in Bukhara, Khiva and Kabul, and that the Ministry is always interested in opening these consulates in Bukhara and Afghanistan. It is said that if these consulates are opened, the Ministry of Defense will always be able to receive accurate and correct political and military information from Bukhara and Afghanistan [7].

A letter of the same content was sent by the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Asian Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on February 6, 1884 [8].

These correspondences show that the Russian military authorities aimed to obtain valuable and accurate military-political information for themselves from the opening of trading houses and consulates.

That is why the officials of Tsarist Russia in Turkestan persistently asked St. Petersburg to expedite the issues raised in the 1873 agreement, including the opening of the Russian diplomatic mission in Bukhara, and the Bukhara diplomatic mission in Tashkent.

The Governor-General of Turkestan sent a letter to the Russian Minister of Defense in June 1885, asking to open an embassy in Tashkent for the Emirate of Bukhara, in order to implement the terms of the 1873 agreement, and to build a building for a Russian diplomatic agent in the Emirate's capital, for which Emir had given a permission.

Thus, as a result of mutual correspondence and efforts, a Russian agency was opened in the Emirate of Bukhara. According to the treaty of friendship between Bukhara and Russia signed in 1873, in 1886 by the decree of Tsar Alexander III, mainly in Bukhara, the Russian political agency began its work. The political agent in charge of the organization has been appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In January 1886, by order of Tsar Alexander III of Russia, a representative office of the Russian state - the Political Agency of the Russian Empire - was established in Bukhara. At the head of this new establishment was a Political Agent, appointed by the Russian Foreign Ministry, who at the same time was subordinate to the Governor-General of Turkestan and the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In March 1886, Major-General Grodekov sent a letter to the Emir of Bukhara informing him of the opening of a political agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara and appointment of a political agent [9].

The Major-General sent the same letter to the Emir of Bukhara, he informed about it in writing to the Asian Department of the General Staff, dated March 1886, No. 117.

On March 3, 1886, N.V. Charykov was confirmed as the first political agent of the Russian Empire in the Bukhara Emirate.

O.A. Chernov's article "Activity of Russian political agent N.V. Charykov in Bukhara Emirate" analyzes the activities of diplomat N.V. Charykov in Bukhara Emirate and states that he was one of the most active in the implementation of geopolitical and economic interests of the Russian Empire in Bukhara Emirate.

In the early days of his new career, Charykov held talks with the Emir of Bukhara on the construction of the Zarafshan-transCaspian railway. In a letter to Russian Emperor Alexander III, Foreign Minister N.G. Girs said that this was the task entrusted to Charykov. Nikolai Valerevich assures the Emir of Bukhara that the construction of roads will pave the way for the development of foreign trade and create new jobs [10].

In short, the Russian-British rivalry for economic dominance in the domestic markets of Bukhara led to their fierce rivalry, and the Russians succeeded, who had directly started this struggle, gradually gained full control and took full control of Bukhara's internal markets. By 1881, the Russians and Russian goods had gained complete hegemony in the Bukhara markets.

Proof of this can be seen in the following words of Charykov, then a political agent of the Russian Empire: "Russian goods have a significant advantage over others in the emirate, he states. They are gradually squeezing out the goods of other foreign countries one by one and replacing them in a very progressive way. Other states goods were forced to go to the other side of the Amudarya and Hindikush" [11].

The Tsarist government, first of all its officials in Turkestan, intervened directly in the internal and external economic affairs and life of the Bukhara Emirate. After initial successes, when the emirate's domestic markets were almost completely captured, and after increasing trade turnover figures, they began to work hard to increase these figures. New opportunities began to be sought to further consolidate these achievements. Most importantly, these achievements were of great interest not only to the Russian government, but also to the Russian bourgeoisie. That is why in the 1880s and 1890s, the Russian bourgeoisie began to make new demands on the Russian government. The result was the construction of railways and the formation of a flotilla in Central Asia [12].

It should be noted that the government of Tsarist Russia paid great attention to this organization. In particular, the fact that the Statute on the Rights and Duties of a Political Agent was later signed by Tsar Nicholas II on

May 5, 1901, shows the importance of the political agency established in Bukhara in the political life of Tsarist Russia.

According to the charter, the political agency of the Russian Empire operating in Bukhara had the right, first of all, to have a full dialogue with the government of Bukhara on all political and economic issues. The political agent was also to oversee all matters being handled by the Amir and his ministers towards Russia.

Russia's political agent in Bukhara also interfered in the emirate's internal affairs and administration and held his influence. In particular, on May 3, 1914, the political agent met with the Emir of Bukhara on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs Sazonov to discuss activities and the salaries of the officials of the Bukhara government and ultimately resolved the issue of setting a fixed salary for officials by the Amir. The Emir of Bukhara, Sayyid Alimkhan, announced in July 1914 that he had set a fixed salary for administrative officials in all 11 independent estates [13].

As stated in the Russian State Archive of Military History documents, according to a report by the Russian political agency based on the data of Mirza Nasrullo Koshbegi, a Koshbegi of the Bukhara Emirate, in 1912 the income received by the beys and officials of the emirate only through tribute amounted to 4,400,000 rubles. The Emir's treasury received 825,000 rubles a year through zakat and 375,000 rubles through aminona (land tax) [14].

Through the political agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara, the Emir of Bukhara annually paid 31,172 rubles for the operation of the Russian hospital in Old Bukhara, 10,500 rubles for the women's dispensary in Old Bukhara, 1,400 rubles for the Russian school, 19,634 rubles for the Old Bukhara police, 9,110 rubles for veterinarians in Karshi and Guzar, 3,730 rubles for veterinarians in Chorjoi, 18,635 rubles for the post and telegraph office in Old Bukhara, 3,000 rubles for a pension for doctor Pozdnyakov, 600 rubles for a pension for a widow of a veterinarian Koshkin, 3,340 rubles for Samarkand post office, 3,500 rubles for guards of the trains, 1,400 rubles for technical activities under the Governor-General of Turkestan, 9,000 rubles for the expenses of the heir to the throne Mir-Mansur, 2,800 rubles for pensions for the descendants of General Bobobek and Jurabek, 17,336 rubles were spent for regulating the flow of the Zarafshan River and controlling its distribution [15].

Also, including the expenses for various repairs and reconstruction works, allowances, locust control, and doctors, in 1912 the emir spent a total of 412,745 rubles. In addition, the emir spent 448,745 rubles 19 kopecks a year, including 12,000 rubles for each of the hospitals being built in Karshi, Shakhrisabz and Dushanbe, plus an additional 36,000 rubles in total [16].

Russia's political agent in Bukhara has been able to increase the Russian government's position in the region by influencing the internal affairs of the Emirate.

The political agent was subordinated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until 1910, and the following year it was subordinated to the Governor-General of Turkestan and through him to the Russian Ministry of Military Affairs. The Emir's government handled all issues with the Russian state through this political agency. In connection with the opening of Russia's political agency in Bukhara, the Emirate of Bukhara has also opened its representative office in Tashkent. But this representation had almost no effect on Russian-Bukhara relations. However, the political agency in Bukhara served as a decisive factor in achieving the goals set by tsarism in the implementation of the colonial policy in the emirate.

The Russian political agency became the emir's closest adviser in implementing the tsarist government's proposals. The political agency was not only satisfied with this, but also interfered in the internal affairs of the emir and took over the appointment of staff for public affairs. In particular, in the early twentieth century in the Emirate of Bukhara not only senior officials but also the governors of the emirate's principalities - beys were appointed, directly on the recommendation or permission of the head of the Political Agency of the Russian Empire [17].

It should be noted that the last ruler of the Emirate of Bukhara - Amir Sayyid Alimkhan - also came to the throne with the direct consent of the Russian government [18].

It was on the basis of these circumstances that the Emirate of Bukhara and its government gradually became a submissive territory of the Russian government and a subordinate who perfectly carried out its instructions.

As D.N. Logofet points out in his work, it was no coincidence that by the beginning of the twentieth century, "one of the governors-general of Turkestan described the Emir of Bukhara as one of their best county chiefs" [19].

In fact, by the beginning of the twentieth century, the Emirate of Bukhara and its government had become a full-fledged "vassal" of the Russian government.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Russian Empire's political agency in Bukhara succeeded in subjugating the Emir of Bukhara to Tsarist Russia without legal documents, forcing the Emir to fulfill all the demands of Tsarist Russia and, if necessary, to carry out all its internal affairs in the Emirate with the consent of the political agent.

By the beginning of 1895, the Emirate of Bukhara also lost its customs system. In 1894, the Russian government began to form a single customs system, taking into account the demands of the political agency in Bukhara, the officials in Turkestan and the bourgeoisie. In the same year, the Russia-Bukhara customs line was abolished. As a result, the entire customs system of the Emirate was transferred to the Russian customs system. Bukhara domestic markets have been included in the Russian domestic market since that day. In short, the Russian-British rivalry for economic dominance in the domestic markets of Bukhara led to their fierce rivalry, and the Russians succeeded, who had directly started this struggle, gradually gained full control and took full control of Bukhara's internal markets. By 1881, the Russians and Russian goods had gained complete hegemony in the Bukhara markets and had the right to dominate a single monopoly.

This was, on the one hand, a great blow to the economic life of the Emirate of Bukhara, and, on the other hand, a violation of its international rights. The adoption of this decision, in turn, led to the loss of a very large income of the Bukhara treasury. As a result of the colonial policy of the Tsarist government, a large amount of income was widely transferred to the Russian treasury without any labor. From the point of view of international law, this situation can be considered as an open "robbery" of the state treasury. According to some estimates at the time, as a result of this decision (January 1, 1895) and its entry into force, the Emirate of Bukhara lost about two million rubles a year [20].

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