



MATERIALS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TURKESTAN GENERAL GOVERNMENT AS A HISTORICAL SOURCE (SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH – EARLY 20TH CENTURIES)

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Article history:		Abstract:
Received:	September 24 th 2023	From the second half of the 19 th century, the territory of Turkestan was included in the plans of tsarism to seize economic space in order to meet the growing needs of Russian capitalism. For this purpose, tsarism, having disrupted traditionally developed trade relations with the Central Asian states, thanks to its superiority in military technology, began to seize the territory of Central Asia one after another. These captures took more than 20 years. A colonial regime of governance was established in the multinational region. For historical science, in the process of studying a certain era, the most important thing is the availability of historical sources. As for the immediate tsarist colonial period in the history of the peoples of Turkestan, it took exactly 50 years of rule, from the formation of the Turkestan General Government until its replacement by the Provisional bourgeois government.
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INTRODUCTION

From the point of view of source research, the main historical materials from the period of the second half of the 19th – and the beginning of the 20th centuries were preserved in the documents of the office of the Turkestan General Government. The office began its work from the formation of the General Government in 1867. At the moment, documents related to the office of the Turkestan General Government are stored in the funds of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The I-1 fund (office of the Turkestan General Government) contains documents of 31,665 titles, providing interesting historical information from 1867 to 1918. During the years of independence in Uzbekistan, the revival of historical memory and the improvement of historical science were placed at the level of state policy.

As First President Islam Karimov emphasized, "It is impossible to defeat a people who know their history and receive spiritual nourishment from it; it is necessary to restore our true history". [1]

MAIN PART

In the short period of history of independent Uzbekistan, new directions in historical science have emerged. According to First President Islam Karimov,

"thanks to the efforts of Uzbek scientists, many of the most important pages of our history were rediscovered, first of all, the Timurids era, the period of the late 19th - early 20th centuries. It is important to remember that the tasks of "rehabilitating" our past as a whole have already been completed, now the main task is scientific objectivity and impartiality of historical analysis". [2]

This is a worthy assessment of the work done and a scientific and methodological direction for future research. Based on the above theoretical directions, we can conclude that the materials of the office of the Turkestan General Government are one of the most important historical sources dating back to the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries.

Initially, it is worth noting some facts about the activities of the office itself. From the history of Russian it is known that the concept of an office in government began to be widely used in the 50s of the 19th century. As for the activities of the office of the Turkestan Governor-General, sources indicate that from the moment of the first steps of the colonization of Turkestan, tsarism adopted a number of provisions for governing the region, which indicated how the office under the Turkestan Governor-General should organize its activities.



For example, even before the organization of the Turkestan General Government in 1866, when the conquered territories belonged to the Turkestan region, a special "Regulation" was developed for the administration of the region. According to this document, the office performed the functions of clerical work for direct management in the system of military-people's government. [3]

According to this document, the work of the office was personally headed by the military governor of the region. Initially, the office consisted of 5 departments: 1. Personnel of the military-people's administration. 2. Economic. 3. Taxes and duties. 4. Statistics. 5. Court cases. In addition to the above main tasks, the office carried out a number of other obligations.

This is the management of the education system among the local population, in particular the management of schools (primary education among the indigenous population. - E.B.), the system of land distribution among the local population, the distribution of funds for the leadership of the indigenous population, issuing permits for private entrepreneurship, as well as control behind him, court cases of the military governor, correspondence with responsible officials of neighboring states, documents on which were to be kept in a special secret part of the chancellery. According to the regulations, the head of the chancellery was considered the chief of staff of the regional troops. It should be noted that the positions of heads of the chancellery were mainly filled by military specialists. The head of the chancellery in the territory of his region had the right to conduct various verification work, the results of which were required to be presented in the form of reports addressed to the military governor, who had the right, according to the local government system, to demand from responsible persons the impeccable fulfillment of certain instructions. The given facts relate to the organization of the office's activities in the Turkestan region.

A year later, on July 11, 1867, after the highest decree, the Turkestan Governor-General was formed. At that moment, the office of the Governor General consisted of 4 departments. The 4th department, which was in charge of judicial affairs, ceased its function after a few years. Considering the materials of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan, a number of the following conclusions can be drawn. Documents indicate that some departments were organized, which, after completing their tasks, ceased their activities. For example, the mountain department, the military campaign office, and the refugee desk were subsequently liquidated.

The first department of the office of the Turkestan Governor-General mainly managed administrative, civilian and inspectorate affairs. The work in the first department was distributed among four tables, 3 tables dealt with the affairs of the office personnel, and the 4th table was in charge of judicial affairs and foreigners. The second department dealt with zemstvo issues and duties. The tasks of the department were distributed among 5 tables, and they dealt with issues of the financial and economic life of the region. The third department dealt with land and tax issues, the organization of cities, their estimates, as well as the development of laws and regulations on the management of the region. The Office of the Turkestan Governor-General supervised the work of the Turkestan public library, museum, newspaper "Turkestan Gazette", as well as the printing house attached to it, which operated from 1872 to 1881.

For a broader understanding of the content of existing documents, they should be characterized by department. It should be noted that in all documents of the office, a stamp was placed on the left side at the top indicating the number of the department and desk. Each researcher, when studying documents, needs to pay attention to the marks to which department they belong. Therefore, every researcher must be well aware of the functions of each department, then the work on the sources will receive a definitely scientific focus. For those who are considering documents related to the Regulations for the management of the region, they are located in the first section, and the researcher can make an analysis of the Regulations that have been developed over time. Here you can also obtain materials about orders from various authorities, circulars, and reports from military governors. There are a number of materials on the preparation of "all-subject" reports and their multi-stage nature. Many annual reports were written based on the questions compiled, so the reports of military governors contain a lot of factual material concerning all aspects of life in the region. [4]

For example: the military governor of the Fergana region submitted a report "On the state of the Fergana region for 1902" to the office of the Turkestan Governor-General. This document is registered in the office of the Governor General with entry number No. 3315/371 dated March 18, 1903. The report contains a lot of factual material, for example, about the development of beekeeping in the Fergana region, which began in the Namangan district; in 1900, a railway was built from Samarkand to Fergana and it passed 2 km from the most populous village of Asaka. In 1901, the Moscow merchant Konstantin Solovyov in Chust established the production of cottonseed oil



from the American cotton variety; On August 29, 1902, in the Babadarhan volost of the Namangan district, the first copper smelter in Turkestan was opened, the initiator of which was the candidate of law P.S. Nazarov, who in 1892 discovered deposits of native copper and copper ore on the right bank of the Syrdarya River. The same report contains the following facts: "The regional city of New Margelan would accordingly be named "Skobelev" in honor of the late Adjutant General M.D. Skobelev, who took an active part in the conquest of this khanate, and then was the first military governor of the Fergana Khanate formed from this khanate region". [5]

In the same file, a copy of an extract from the journal of the Committee of Ministers of Russia dated May 20, 1903, number No. 1665, is preserved, which states that "the village of Asaka is one of the most densely populated areas in the region, at the same time it is one of the most significant centers of trade turnover cotton and the concentration of a significant number of cotton gins". [6]

Also for comparison, you can cite the report of the military governor of the Semirechensk region for 1902, registered under number No. 12835 in the office of the Turkestan Governor-General. According to the report, one of the main tasks of the region was to find measures to accommodate migrants from Siberia and the European part of Russia who appeared in the region without permission. According to the report, the territory of the region was 352,979 km², of which 224,851 people lived in a sedentary population in 6,370 km², and 794,775 nomads lived in the remaining 346,609 km². The report provides a number of interesting facts concerning the life of the nomadic Kyrgyz population. It also contains information about relations with the border regions of China. So, in 1902, an international congress was held in the Kegen tract to resolve mutual claims. "The Chinese dignitaries present at the Kegen Congress petitioned for the placement of 10 Chinese boys to study Russian at the Vernensky gymnasium at the expense of the Chinese government. This request was granted, and the Chinese boys were delivered in October of this year by General Zhi to the city of Verna". [7]

The researcher, from the point of view of source research, can compare the above reports of military governors and highlight special facts from the life of the Fergana and Semirechensk regions. In the documents of the first department one can find facts concerning the relationship of the Turkestan Governor-General with the Bukhara Emirate (in all documents of the chancellery Bukhara is described as a khanate), relations with Afghanistan. In particular, in the reports of the military governors of the Trans-Caspian region,

one can highlight the fact of the resettlement of the Jamshedi tribe within the boundaries of the Turkestan General Government. [8]

Analysis of these documents makes it possible to learn that tsarism took into account many factors in matters of relations with Afghanistan. For example, Afghanistan was important in trade relations with India, since caravans passed through the territory of this state. [9]

In the materials of this department you can also learn about the fate of the exiled Ferghana residents on the island of Sakhalin, after the capture of the island by Japan, how they returned back to their homeland. It is in this department that documents are kept about the scientific activities of the Russian scientist N.A. Severtsev on the study of the Fergana Valley. For researchers of the history of the Fergana region as part of the Turkestan General Government, a number of documents can be recommended.

For example, the decree of K.P. von Kaufman dated October 30, 1876, number No. 244, which indicates the specific boundaries of the region, counties, and their heads. Thus, Major Yastrzhembsky was appointed head of the Fergana Valley office. It also indicates the organizational measures of the administration of the Fergana region. [10]

Archival materials testify to the special attitude of the administration of the Turkestan General Government towards Islamic issues. Thus, in the documents of the First Department there are facts about the organization of the pilgrimage (Hajj) to Mecca and medical care for pilgrims. You can also find out that "There are 5,216 Muslim schools among 119 Russian educational institutions of various names in the Syrdarya, Fergana and Samarkand regions, and 6 Orthodox churches in the Fergana region account for 6,134 mosques" – these facts were cited in his report "Islam in Turkestan" Turkestan Governor-General Dukhovskiy in 1899 in Tashkent.

In general, the documents of the first section are very diverse and relate to various issues. It should be noted that one of the most important documents are the annual reports of regional military governors, which were initially also submitted to the first department. But subsequently, the information provided by the military governors was presented to other departments as copies, so copies of the reports can be found again. The materials concerning the second department are very diverse, but summarizing them, we can call them the economic department. They contain materials concerning the introduction of zemstvo and local self-government in the region, documents on the organization of construction work, reports on the construction and repair of highways in



the Pamirs, Alai and Kashgar, pack roads between Namangan and Aulie-Ata, on the costs of developing irrigation in region, about the construction of a spillway in Katta-Kurgan. [11]

The last question was the most fundamental in relations with the Bukhara Emirate, since the lower reaches of the Zeravshan River provided water for the agricultural crops of Bukhara. But in the midst of irrigation work, the waters of Zarafshan did not reach their destinations. Therefore, by mutual agreement, a special irrigation commission was organized to resolve this problem. [12]

In the materials of the department you can obtain data on the economic life of the regions of the Turkestan General Government. For example, in 1897, 5 districts of the Semirechensk region, despite the weather conditions, grew a good wheat harvest, which was enough to fully supply the population of the region.

Industrial development was weak, so the regional administration considered it expedient to build a railway from Tashkent to Siberia [13]; the materials also provide information about the territory of the regions. Thus, in the report of the military governor of Semirechye Ivanov from 1899, it is reported that the total area of the region is 352,979 km². A similar report by the Syrdarya military governor N. Korolkov indicates the territory of the region as 459,000 km². [14]

Comparing these facts, it is clear that the Syrdarya region occupied a large area in terms of territory, and economic indicators were also high. In terms of quantity and content of materials, the documents of the third section are considered the largest. Thus, for studying the issues of formation of regions and districts within the Turkestan General Government, journals of meetings and reports of the commission on this issue are useful. [15]

Thus, for research into questions about the organization of the activities of internal affairs bodies, the factual material could be circulars of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, relevant orders and circulars, reports of military governors on this issue and materials for these reports. Important information contains reports on audits of administrative institutions of the region, compiled by F.T. Giers and N.K. Fire.

In connection with the 2200th anniversary of the city of Tashkent, researchers can receive a lot of interesting materials about the history of the city. In particular, according to the report contained in the report of the Governor-General of the Syrdarya region N. Korolkov, in 1899 the Tashkent district occupied an area of 40,380 km², in which 447,724 people lived. [16]

For the city of Tashkent, information is given in the report of the governor of the Syrdarya region, Fedotov, for 1904. According to the data provided, 169,712 people lived in Tashkent. The city of Tashkent surpassed such districts as Tashkent, Auliaata, Perovsky and Kazalinsky in agricultural production. The military governor gives this information based on the results of research by the Russian agronomist A. Saakov, who reported that the farmers of the city of Tashkent were engaged in this trade near the city, which is why the urban population was fully provided with agricultural products. [17]

Important documents are contained in the report and correspondence, which reports on the nomadic population of the region. In particular, questions about the resettlement of nomads to a settled position, issues of family and marriage, about the land structure of the Dungans and Taranches, about the nomadic way of life of the Kirghiz and Karakalpaks in the khanates.

For researchers of the history of mining in Turkestan, the minutes of meetings of the Mining Committee, information on geological research, documents on the issuance of permits for the search and development of deposits of gold, oil, coal and other minerals, and on oil sources are useful. For the study of the history of geological issues of the region, reports, reports and correspondence on geological expeditions of D.K. Myshenkova, G.F. Romanovsky, I.V. Mushketova, D.P. Ivanov, Rengarten are important. This also includes reports, notes on scientific expeditions and trips to Turkestan by scientists such as A.P. Fedchenko, N.A. Severtsev, A.E. Regel, V.V. Bartold.

The documents of the office of the Turkestan General Government include materials from the diplomatic part of the office. She supervised the issues of diplomatic relations of the Turkestan Governor-General with neighboring khanates, with Afghanistan, Kashgar, Gulja and existed until 1899, because At the suggestion of Governor General Dukhovskiy, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs established the position of a diplomatic official under the Turkestan Governor General. Judging by the documents, issues of diplomatic relations, including border and trade affairs, were assigned personally to the governors general.

By examining the documents of this part, one can obtain many interesting facts concerning the diplomatic activities of the Turkestan Governor-General. For example: in the 70s of the 19th century, based on trade contradictions in Asia, the task of reviving trade in Central Asia was set between Britain and Russia. For this, in 1872 K.P. Kaufman personally



sent his representative Petrovsky to study issues of trade relations with the Bukhara Khanate. Therefore, he walked the path from the city of Karshi to Bukhara. His reports contain information of a geographical and economic nature and contain a lot of interesting information. Thus, studying the markets of the Bukhara Khanate, he writes: "Bukhara is the most important, if not the only, point of this trade". He also concludes that in order to develop Russian trade in Turkestan, the state of trade in Bukhara should be studied, after which all trade in Central Asia can be drawn into its sphere of influence. [18]

CONCLUSION

Considering the materials of the office of the Turkestan General Government, which collected a huge number of documents testifying to the history of Turkestan from the second half of the 19th - early 20th centuries, they should be systematized according to the areas of the historical object of study. Accordingly, based on the materials of the governorate, a number of topics for research can be recommended:

1. Source study of the foreign policy activities of the Turkestan General Government;
2. Source study of the history of scientific societies and institutions of Turkestan;
3. Source study of the history of the construction of railways in Turkestan;
4. Source study of the history of the activities of Turkestan customs;
5. Source study of the history of the organization and activities of trade in Turkestan;
6. Source study of the history of medicine of Turkestan;
7. Source study of the history of mining (based on materials from the mining department);
8. Source study of the history of the conquest based on materials from campaign offices;
9. Source study of the history of relations with the Bukhara Khanate.

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