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TRADE RELATIONS OF THE EMIRATE OF BUKHARA WITH INDIA IN THE 60-80 YEARS OF XX CENTURY

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Abstract

The Emirate of Bukhara, considered one of the largest centers of the eastern trading world, had extensive trade relations with India during the second half of the XIX–early XX centuries. In the XIX century, the cities of Bukhara, Karshi, Termez, and Samarkand maintained regular trade links with such important trading centers of India as Peshawar, Shikapur, Bombay, and Molton, along the caravan routes passing through Kabul, Kyrat, and Kandahar. The demand for trade goods from India was high not only in the Emirate of Bukhara but also in the markets of Central Asia. The growing demand for Indian products in the markets has served as an important factor in the development of trade relations between the Emirate of Bukhara and India.

Keywords: Bukhara, Karshi, Termez, Samarkand, India, Afghanistan, Isfahan, Mashhad, Merv, Khojent, Kashmir, Central Asia, trade routes, trade, tea, rice, indogo, anil.

Research results: We have seen many studies of trade relations between Bukhara and India in the 1960s and 1980s. In this regard, the information provided by P. S. Savelyev is important for us when studying the history of this period. He also conducted a study of trade relations between the Emirate of Bukhara and India and gave his conclusions about trade between the two countries. He writes that Bukhara was an important trading center in Central Asia, that during this period more than 4 thousand Indian merchants lived and traded in the emirate, and that more than 300 Indian merchants constantly lived in the caravanserais in Bukhara and engaged in usury[1].

P.Nebolsin also gave information about the trade that was carried out between Bukhara and India in the second half of the XIX century and reported that 10,000 camels of indigo, anil, and other trade goods were brought to Bukhara annually from the Molton district[2]. Sources indicate that back in the 1960s and 1980s, foreign merchants were granted the right to live freely in the emirate; they were guaranteed non-discrimination against persons of other religions, as well as a guaranteed return to their homeland whenever they wanted. But they paid twice as much in taxes as Muslims and Sunnis. For example, A. Burns argues that Indian merchants in Bukhara have the same privileges as Muslim merchants, and no one forced them to convert to Islam in Bukhara[3]. According to information, by the end of the 19th century, more than 5,000 Indian merchants were engaged in trade in the Emirate of Bukhara. They lived in the emirate for an average of 10-15 to 40-50 years and then returned to their homeland. Archival documents show that in 1894, more than 900 Indian merchants were engaged in usury in the city of Bukhara and its surroundings, and in one year, 10,000 jizya coins were received by the emir's treasury[4].

It can be observed that Bukhara-Indian trade relations were carried out through several caravan routes. For example, where the caravan that started from Peshawar went for 3 days to Jalalabad and then to Kabul via Khaybar-Davan, where the Khaybar tribe of Afghans lives, and then to Kabul, paid off and continued its journey. Since the roads from Kabul to Bamyan pass through mountainous areas, the caravans traveled for 16 days. Merchants who came to Sarichashma, Hulm,

and Bamyan along this road paid zakat and continued their journey. Traders spent 2 days from Bamiyan to Balkh, and 7-9 days from Balkh to Karki[5].

We know that at the beginning of the XIX century, the Emirate of Bukhara conducted intensive trade with India. By the 1950s and 1960s, trade relations were developing. During this period, Indian merchants brought to Bukhara mainly silk gauzes, turbans, and lining fabrics woven from fine threads, pearls, and precious stones, as well as a large amount of indigo dye, which was in great demand in the markets of Bukhara. According to the information, 2000 camels of indigo dye made in Molton were brought to Bukhara in one year, and one pood was sold in the markets of Bukhara for 44 rubles. Kashmiri shawls, movut, embroidery, and bed linen from India were also in high demand in the markets of the Emirates[6]. The demand for kashmiri rice in the markets of the Emirates and neighboring khanates was high, and the price was very high. According to E. K. Meindorf, there are machines in Kashmir that weave up to 30,000 shawls per year, and up to 100,000 shawls are woven on these machines. 20,000 pieces of rice are brought from Kashmir to Kabul per year, 3,000 of them to Bukhara. It is known that Bukhara merchants made a good profit by selling 2,000 of them at high prices in the markets of Russian cities[7].

Kashmiri shawl is divided into such types as Rakhdar, Bushdar, Shamli, Alwan, and Jorobi, and the prices for them depend on the type. Products such as tobacco, coconut ashtrays, cotton turbans, camel skin scales, Kashmiri pencils, muslin, banoras, and brocade were imported from Peshawar. Also, products manufactured in the British industry began to enter the Emirate markets in large quantities.. At the end of the 1860s, 78 types of yarn woven at the Manchester factory in England were imported to India, and from there they were also delivered to the markets of the Emirates. During this period, British yarn, wool, and silk worth 170,000 pounds sterling, as well as other goods, were delivered annually to Bukhara from India via Kabu[8].

In the 60s and 80s of the XIX century, the Bukhara Emirate exported to India raw silk, yarn, wool, goat's wool, horses, carpets, almonds, raisins, dried fruits, Russian and Bukhara gold, silver coins, and floral velvet brought from Russia. Blue tea which imported from India and Peshawar rice were very popular in the markets of Bukhara. In the stores of Bukhara, rice from Peshawar was sold at much lower prices than rice from other regions. According to information, Peshawar rice was consumed more by the local population. In the city of Karshi, a pound of Peshawar rice was sold for 20 coin[9]. The share of tea in Bukhara's trade with India was also high. In 1860, 84 thousand pounds of tea were brought to Bukhara from India and placed in six caravanserais in Bukhara For example, for a year “Saroi Abdurashid” received 3,000 camels, “Saroi Mirzagul” - 1,500 camels, and “Saroi Badriddin” - 1,200 camels. In the 1970s and 1980s, 112,000 pounds of green tea, 23,000 pounds of indigo, and 20,000 pounds of muslin were brought to Bukhara[10].

In the 60s and 80s of the XIX century, among the trade goods brought by Indian merchants to Bukhara, the tea trade rose to prominence. During this period, Russian merchants brought blue and black tea from Kyakhta, China, to the markets of Bukhara. They are sold much cheaper compared to Indian teas. However, despite the fact that Chinese teas are cheap in the markets, the demand for them among the population was much lower. The quality of Indian teas also easily competes with Chinese teas. For this reason, the sale of Indian tea in the markets of the Emirates is very popular.

In 1868, a trade caravan of 4,000 camels arrived in Bukhara from India and Kabul, of which 800 were carrying green tea, and the rest of the camels were carrying English goods produced in shops and factories. In the 1860s and 1870s, the share of Indo-English trade goods in the Emirates' markets was much higher than the share of Russian goods. The documents noted that the share of

trade in Central Asia was 22 times higher than that of the Russians[11]. In 1868, 6,500 camels were brought to Bukhara from India, and in 1869, 6,560 camels of various trade goods were brought [12].

P.Rasulzoda reported that in 1860–1870, trade goods worth 6500–7000 camels were imported from India to Bukhara. If you pay attention to the trade relations between Bukhara and India in 1870–1880, you can see that there was not a crisis in trade but rather a rapid development. During these years, 70,000 pounds of tea, 18,000 pounds of Nile dye, 80,000 pounds of paint, 50 pieces of Kashmir palos, and 30 pieces of gold cloth were brought to Bukhara from India[13].

In the second half of 1880, the political agent Clem sent from India to Bukhara more than 70 thousand pounds of tea of different varieties, more than 18 thousand pounds of Nile dye, 1400 pounds of gauze and raw molasses, 800 pounds of attar goods, 250 pieces of Ambarsari shawl, and 50 pieces of Kashmiri shawl. He also reported that 300 pieces of brocade were brought. The total amount of goods imported from India to Bukhara in one year amounted to 5 million, 475 thousand rubles. N. Stremukhov wrote that trade goods worth 2,100 pounds, or 420 000 rubles, were exported from the Bukhara Emirate to India[14].

As a result of the occupation of Bukhara markets with Anglo-Indian goods, this created great competition for Russian goods. By the 80s of the XIX century, the Russian Empire had to take measures to adapt the Bukhara markets to its own and serve its interests in order to displace Anglo-Indian goods from the markets of the Emirates and Turkestan. By 1881, in order to prevent the entry of Anglo-Indian goods into the markets of the Turkestan, Bukhara, and Khiva khanates, the Russian government “imposed a heavy duty on Anglo-Indian tea and controlled the entry of Anglo-Indian goods competing with Russian goods into the markets of the Central Asian khanates and about the ban. [15]. Russian Empire did not fully apply. For example, in a letter from the Russian Emperor Alexander III to Amir Muzaffar, it was noted that in June 1881, a trading caravan consisting of 3,000 camels and 2,000 camels arrived in Bukhara from India. In 1880, the trade turnover between Bukhara and India reached 4 million rubles. In 1881, more than 3,000 camels with goods arrived in the emirate from India. Among the goods, there were 600 skeins (knots) and only 1 million 440 thousand pieces of fabric [16]. The arrival of Anglo-Indian goods in large quantities in Bukhara led to the conclusion that they were directly supplied to the markets of the Turkestan region and the Khanate of Khiva.

In 1881, after the Russian government imposed a large duty on trade goods imported from Anglo-Indian and European countries. The Russian Empire introduced customs on the caravan routes from Bukhara to Turkestan in order to capture the markets of the Emirates faster. Also, the importation of competing goods such as Indian brocade, Kashmiri shawls, hemp, brought to Bukhara to the territory of Turkestan was banned.[17].

Despite the introduction of large tariffs on the import of Anglo-Indian goods to Turkestan, Bukhara-Indian traders did not stop transporting such expensive goods as tea, indigo dye, and high-quality gauze to different regions of Turkestan. They were brought to the territory of Turkestan by merchants, by passing customs with the payment of a large number of duties or by secret detours, passing through mountainous and desert areas. For example, in 1888, tea imported from India was much cheaper in the Bukhara markets, and a pound of tea cost 20–28 rubles[18].

By the 1980s of the XIX century, the influx of Indian goods to Bukhara through Afghanistan had slowed down significantly. For example, in 1882–1883 it decreased by 19.5% compared to previous years, and in 1883–1884 - by 14.4%[19]. One of the main reasons for this is the political situation in Afghanistan Due to the instability of the political situation in Afghanistan, it became very difficult to move along the caravan routes that passed through some areas. For this reason,

Bukhara and Indian merchants had to use the road connecting Bandar Abbas, Mashhad, and Herat for a certain period of time. Goods released from the port of Bombay were delivered to the cities of Bandar Abbas or Bandar Bushehr on the Persian Gulf coast, and from there camel caravans were transported through [20]. Yazd to Mashhad, and then through Herat to Bukhara. In spring and summer, merchants paid 12 crowns (2 rubles 40 kopecks), and in winter, 15 crowns (3 rubles) for each pound of cargo. In addition, the Iranian government levied a sales tax of 1 ruble 20 kopecks in Bandar Abbas or Bandar Bushehr, 1 ruble 20 kopecks in Yazd and 20 kopecks in Mashhad on every pound of cargo transported to Bukhara[21]. Caravans going through Iran reached Bukhara in 42-45 days and had to pay more duty. These factors also had a negative impact on a slight decline in the Bukhara-Indian trade.

Conclusion: Trade relations between Bukhara and India have been going on continuously since ancient times. In the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, trade goods imported from India were in high demand not only in the Emirate of Bukhara, but also in all Central Asian khanates. Demand for tea, indigo dye, Kashmiri shawl, and other products imported from India was high. In the markets of Bukhara and Turkestan, Indian goods were sold much cheaper than Russian ones. Since the 1980s of the XIX century, the Russian Empire has strengthened measures to adapt the markets of Bukhara to its interests and prevent the penetration of some Anglo-Indian goods into the markets of Bukhara and Turkestan. But these measures did not have a positive effect.

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