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ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE AMU DARYA DEPARTMENT AND THE KHIVA KHANATE BASED ON ARCHIVAL SOURCES

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Abstract: Based on archival sources, this article analyzes the political and social relations between the Amu Darya Department and the Khiva Khanate. It highlights the system of control established by Russia over the khanate following the Gandimian Treaty. The study examines the involvement of the head of the department in both foreign and internal affairs of the khanate, issues of tribute (indemnity), and military obligations. It also explores the role of the local population's appeals to the Russian administration on legal matters and their place within the system of social relations. The research demonstrates that the Amu Darya Department served as an important instrument of the Russian Empire in establishing control over the Khiva Khanate.

Keywords: Amu Darya Department, Khiva Khanate, Russian Empire, Gandimian Treaty, political relations, social relations, archival documents.

Introduction. In the second half of the 19th century, as a result of the Russian Empire's colonial policy in Central Asia, the Khiva Khanate was subordinated to Russia in 1873, and the Amu Darya Department was created. This new administrative structure became the primary center for Russia's political, economic, and legal control over the Khiva Khanate. Relations between the Amu Darya Department and the Khiva Khanate were clearly manifested in the areas of political governance, foreign relations, military obligations, and socio-legal issues. Particularly important aspects of these relations were the department's head's intervention in the khanate's internal affairs, as well as the local population's appeals to the Russian administration.

This article analyzes these relations using archival sources from a source study perspective.

Literature Review and Methodology. This topic has been partially studied by a number of researchers. The scholarly literature covers the Russian Empire's policy toward the Khiva Khanate, the administrative governance of the Amu Darya Department, and its relations with the khanate. However, a comprehensive source study of the political and social relations between the Amu Darya Department and the Khiva Khanate based on archival materials remains insufficient. Therefore, this article draws extensively on materials from the National Archives of Uzbekistan, records of the Khiva Khanate, the holdings of the Amu Darya Department administration, and some manuscript sources from the Ichan-Kala Museum-Reserve in Khorezm.

The research utilized methods of historicism, objectivity, comparative analysis, source studies, and paleographic reading.

Analysis and Results. After the capture of Khiva in 1873, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Treaty of Gandim [1, p. 324], the right bank of the Amu Darya was incorporated into the Russian Empire. On August 26 of that year, the Governor-General of Turkestan, K. P. Kaufman, drafted the "Temporary Charter on the Governance of the Amu Darya District," consisting of 18 articles.

According to this temporary regulation, a separate administrative district called the "Amu Darya District" was formed on the right bank of the Amu Darya, and Colonel Ivanov was appointed its head. The administrative system under Ivanov's leadership was vested with oversight functions not only over the Amu Darya department but also over the governance of the Khiva Khanate. Furthermore, it was entrusted with the role of mediator in all relations between the khanate and the Turkestan Governor-General [2, p. 487].

This article analyzes the political and social relations of the Amu Darya Department with the Khiva Khanate based on archival documents. It should be noted that the source base for the study primarily includes records of the Khiva Chancellery (collection I-125, inventories 1 and 2), documents of the Amu Darya Department administration (collection I-907, inventory 1), and some other published materials. Therefore, it seems appropriate to divide the department's relations with the khanate into two areas of study.

In examining the first area—political relations—it should be noted that, according to the Treaty of Gandim, Khiva was transformed into a state dependent on Russia. Henceforth, the Khan of Khiva had no right to enter into independent relations with neighboring khanates, nor to conclude trade or other agreements with them [3, p. 112]. Furthermore, the Khan's travel outside the khanate was permitted only with the permission of the Turkestan Governorate-General and through the mediation of the head of the Amu Darya Department.

For example, a document from 1882 states that Said Rahim Khan II's desire to attend the coronation of the Russian Emperor was conveyed and approved by the Turkestan Governorate-General. The letter contains the following content: "...your desire to personally congratulate you at the coronation was conveyed through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a reply was soon received that His Imperial Majesty accepted this wish. This letter was composed in the city of Tashkent. "The Governor-General of the Turkestan Territory, Kalpakov, signed and sealed it" [4. p. 3].

Thus, it should be noted that each of the khan's wishes could only be realized with the approval of the Governor-General's office. The head of the Amu Darya department also interfered in the khanate's internal affairs, which often led to various intrigues. Such interference in some cases became one of the reasons for the assassination of the Grand Vizier Islamkhoja [3. p. 147].

The department head's governance of the khanate involved not only overseeing the implementation of laws and orders of the Governor-General's office but also fulfilling various responsibilities related to military expenditures, providing troops with food, transportation, and housing. Documents from 1901 state: "...for the accommodation of soldiers, for providing them with what they need at their encampments, as well as for the provision of yurts, firewood, and all necessary conditions, instruct Naib Kanak to organize supplies, which was signed by Barunov" [5, p. 3].

The document indicates that the costs associated with the accommodation of Russian troops were borne by the local population and the khanate administration. Providing yurts, firewood, and other necessary supplies from local resources was a characteristic form of colonial exploitation in the subordinate territories of the Russian Empire.

In some cases, part of the costs were also covered by the department itself. For example, the following document states: “…expenses in the amount of 422 rubles 27 kopecks, spent on food and needs of the troops who arrived in 1900-1901 from Chardzhou to Turtkul, are to be transferred to you with a receipt and sent back to us... Amu Darya district chief, Colonel Galkin. February 18, 1902. Seal” [6. p. 3].

The document shows that the soldiers' food, transportation costs, road services, and other needs were met by the local population, indicating the extensive use of local resources to support the administration's military infrastructure.

Secondly, the document indicates that these funds were not allocated from the khan's treasury, but were often spent by private individuals or local residents as an advance. This means that military needs were not the responsibility of the state, but primarily the responsibility of the local population. Thus, local officials and wealthy individuals of the khanate were initially forced to bear the costs out of their own pockets upon the arrival of military units.

Furthermore, expeditionary and inspection missions by various groups, including those led by H.V. Gelman (1876–1881), K.G. Gershfeld (1899–1900), Colonel Stanikbovich (1891), and Colonel Lobachevsky (1910), were also financed by the khanate [7, p. 1].

According to the treaty, the khan's administration was also deprived of the right to freely use the Amu Darya. As a result, Russian vessels were granted unrestricted access and control over the river, while the movement of Khiva and Bukhara vessels was permitted only with the permission of the Governor-General [3, p. 113].

Overall, the Treaty of Gandim became the legal basis for further political relations between the Amu Darya Department and the Khanate. Its provisions, particularly those concerning the Amu Darya, cemented the Russian Empire's military, political, and economic superiority in the region.

The Russian administration built wharves and ports on the left bank of the Amu Darya to develop shipping and support military and trade interests. The Khanate of Khiva was responsible for ensuring the security of these structures.

However, the most difficult and economically decisive clause of the treaty for the Khanate was the obligation to pay indemnity. According to the treaty, the indemnity of 2,200,000 manats was to be paid within 20 years, by November 1, 1893. However, this deadline was extended until 1901. According to a document from 1897, the conditions for paying the contribution were reminded annually through the head of the Amu Darya department, and the payment procedure was strictly regulated: "…The Khiva state was required to pay a contribution, the procedure for which was changed and established according to a new calculation; according to the reports, the remaining arrears of Khiva were to be transferred to the Russian treasury as follows: for the current year - one and a half million manats (in the Russian text it is indicated as 130 thousand rubles), for 1898 also one and a half million manats (in the Russian text it is indicated as 150 thousand rubles), and for 1899 - the remaining 147 thousand 113 manats, in order to fully cover the debt... I bring this to the attention of Your Excellency. For notification purposes. Head of the district, Colonel Galkin. July 15, 1897. Seal" [8. p. 11].

This document demonstrates that the head of the Amu Darya Department performed not only administrative functions but also the role of a key imperial representative, overseeing the collection and timely receipt of indemnity payments. Indemnity payments placed significant pressure on the economy of the Khiva Khanate. These funds were covered by the state treasury, local taxes, and various levies on the population.

The issue of indemnities imposed on the Turkmen tribes also remained a constant focus of political scrutiny in the political relations between the Amu Darya Department and the Khiva Khanate. In particular, the fulfillment of financial obligations imposed on the Yomud and other Turkmen tribes after the war of 1873 was under the constant supervision of the Amu Darya Department administration [9, p. 1].

After the incorporation of the Amu Darya Department into Russia, as noted in some studies, it cannot be claimed that peace returned to the region [10, p. 46]. On the contrary, archival

documents indicate that security problems in the border regions persisted for a long time. According to archival sources, the predatory actions of Turkmen tribes such as the Yomuds and Chovdurs continued. This is confirmed by a warning letter sent by Ivanov, the head of the Amu Darya Department, to the Khiva Khanate on January 9, 1875 [11, p. 18], in which the khan's administration was requested to suppress the robberies of the Turkmen tribes, take measures to contain them, and ensure order in the border regions.

Interference by the department head in the internal affairs of the khanate was also common practice. A striking example is a document sent on September 12, 1903, by the head of the Amu Darya department, Major General Barun Ruf. It contained a demand to dismiss the head of the Sharzhui fortress from his post. The text of the document is as follows: "...the head of the Sharzhui fortress of the Khiva Khanate, Muhammad Rahim, son of Muhammad Karim, is to be removed from office for accepting bribes and to appoint another headman in his place, informing me of his name. Head of the Amu Darya department, Major General Barun Ruf. September 12, 1903" [12, p. 53].

First of all, this document demonstrates that, despite the formal autonomy of the Khiva Khanate's administrative system, in practice it was under the control of the Amu Darya department. The appointment and dismissal of local officials, such as aksakals, was traditionally the khanate's internal responsibility. However, the direct intervention of the department head indicates a significant limitation of the khanate's sovereignty.

Secondly, the document confirms that the department acted as a "supervisory authority" in Khiva. Barun Ruf did not limit himself to a recommendation; he actually issued an order, also demanding the name of the newly appointed elder, indicating that he retained ultimate control over the department's administration.

Thirdly, the document reflects the spread of corruption in the khanate's administrative system and the decline in administrative effectiveness. The accusation of bribery against the head of the Sharzhui fortress points to the abuse of office for personal gain by local officials.

Regarding the second part of the question—social relations—analysis of these documents reveals the close social ties between the Amu Darya department and the Khiva Khanate.

Documents of this type demonstrate that social relations between the two administrations were multifaceted, complex, and often contradictory. For example, a letter sent on September 1, 1881, by Akhmad Eshbay to the head of the Amu Darya department [13, p. 8] reports a robbery committed on a caravan route, killing one person and wounding another. This suggests that serious security problems existed in the border regions between the two territories. Thus, even after the creation of the Amu Darya department, various criminal groups continued to operate in the border regions of the Khiva Khanate, which posed a serious threat to the free movement of the population and the development of trade.

Furthermore, Akhmad Eshbay's appeal to the head of the Amu Darya department demonstrates that the local population began to perceive the Russian administration as a source of justice and protection. While previously such disputes were resolved through tribal leaders or khan officials, citizens now increasingly relied on the imperial administration.

Another important document reflecting socio-legal relations concerns a complaint stating that the daughter of Bekmuhammad from the Kazan district was deceived by Aziz Makhsud from Urgench and subsequently abandoned without support and deprived of her due maintenance. In connection with this, the head of the Amu Darya department demanded that the Khan of Khiva restore the woman's rights and ensure the collection of her due maintenance [14, p. 9].

The document demonstrates that the administration of the Amu Darya department sought to protect the interests of not only its own subjects but also the population of other districts living within the territory of the Khiva Khanate. Moreover, this fact testifies to the khanate's close social ties with other regions.

Secondly, the document demonstrates that the Russian administration sought to position itself as a defender of justice and rights, focusing on the legal protection of women.

Another example of a social issue is reflected in a complaint sent on September 3, 1887, by Muhammad Uraz, Muhammad's son, and Kutlugsafar Sikhatov to the Amu Darya Department administration [15, p. 5]. It states that their relative married on the right bank of the Amu Darya, and the groom, Yermuhammad, promised to pay a dowry of 200 gold pieces during the marriage, but only paid 10, failing to provide the remaining amount. The complainants requested collection of this debt.

This document demonstrates that the powers of the head of the Amu Darya Department were not limited exclusively to administrative or military matters. He also directly intervened in social and legal relations, including matters of marriage, dowry, property disputes, and family conflicts, which were traditionally the responsibility of the qazis. This demonstrates the extremely broad scope of authority of the department head, who acted not only as the administrative and political representative of the Russian Empire but also as the highest judicial authority for the local population.

Undoubtedly, one of the reasons for this situation was the population's high level of trust in the imperial administration in resolving their problems. Citizens believed that disputes and grievances arising in the Khiva Khanate were difficult to effectively resolve without the intervention of the head of the Amu Darya Department. Therefore, direct appeal to him was perceived as the most reliable way to protect their rights and interests.

Conclusion

In summary, it should be noted that the Amu Darya Department served as an important political and administrative center in the Russian Empire's system of establishing control over the Khiva Khanate. The department's head constantly intervened in the khanate's foreign policy, its internal governance, financial obligations, and military support. At the same time, the local population frequently appealed to the Amu Darya Department administration on social and legal issues.

This situation demonstrates the Russian administration's penetration into virtually all spheres of khanate life. As a result, the Amu Darya Department became one of the main instruments for subordinating the Khiva Khanate to the political, economic, and social interests of the Russian Empire.

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