

SOURCE STUDIES OF THE HISTORY OF SAMARKAND REGION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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Abstract

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Samarkand region was considered one of the five regions within the Turkistan General Governorate. Information about the economic and social situation of the region can be extracted from the reports sent by the military governors of the region to the governor-general of Turkestan.

Keywords: The regional administration, governor of Samarkand region, archive documents, military service, main competitor of the farmers, the effect of locusts, various natural conditions.

Introduction

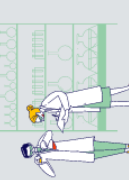
In the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in the documents of the Turkestan Governor General's Court (Chancellery) - dated March 18, 1905 with the number 2889/403, the regional administration of the military governor of Samarkand region, General – Lieutenant Medinsky, was recorded and preserved in the I section, 1st table - № 454 the information in the report compiled on March 15, 1905 was taken as a basis. [1]

The military governor of the Samarkand region, Medinsky, resigned after half a century of military service to Russian Empire by the order of the governor general of the country on March 14, 1905. Nevertheless, the report of the retired general will be accepted on March 18. [2]

MAIN PART

In the report, you can first find out information about the economic situation of the region. According to archive documents, at the beginning of the 20th century, the Samarkand region consisted of 4 district: Samarkand, Katta-Korgon, Jizzakh, Khojand districts. [3]

The report begins with an account of the situation in 1903 and comments on regional agriculture. According to it, it is recognized that wheat cultivation is the main economic activity of the population of Samarkand region. In the report, even in 1903, the main competitor of the farmers of the region was considered to be a pest. It is known that the local population changed the planting season of the cultivated plants in order to control the locust, but this in turn coincided with the irrigation time of the other cultivated crops and therefore suffered from water shortage. As a result, the spring and autumn wheat areas decreased by 22,530 desiatsins, on the contrary, the cultivated areas intended for the cultivation of vegetable oil increased by 5,265 desiatsins. Because of this, they are planted in fields where wheat has been harvested, and the effect of locusts on them is much reduced. [4]

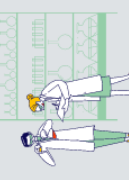


Measures to combat locusts in the region in 1903 amounted to 3,476,674 working days. The military governor acknowledges that the peasants of the region took part in mass work on their own initiative in the organization of work in this regard. As a result, thanks to the services of the farmers of the region, the cultivated area was reduced by 6.5% due to the effect of locusts, but they received almost 24,000 pounds of grain more than in 1902. According to the report, one pound of wheat is valued at 1 ruble and 41 tithes in the region. In 1903, the area under cotton cultivation in the region decreased by 21.5%, that is, 9812 decimetres were harvested from the 12500 decimetres of cotton cultivated area. The rest were left without crops due to various natural conditions, as a result of which 6 of the existing 28 cotton gins in the region did not work. [5]

In 1903, the state of the trade-industrial network was slightly lower than in the past. The locust was cited as the main cause. Also, in the spring of 1903, railway traffic was stopped from April 19 to June 4 due to a washout near the Tejen (Tajan) station of the Central Asian Railway, which also affected the state of trade. Only by the end of the year, after the success in agriculture becomes clear, trade and trade-credit activities will reach their norms. In local trade, tea trade is well developed and amounted to 5,800,000 rubles. The reason for the development of tea trade was the need for this product in Bukhara and neighboring provinces. From the report, there is information about the only estimated glass production plant in Turkestan near Khujand. 4 coal mining mines were operating in the region and they produced 292,133 pounds of coal in 1903. Reasons for lagging behind in this area: 1st - lack of big entrepreneurs and specialists; From 2nd - the distant location of coal mines is shown.

In 1903, there were 10 Russian settlements in the region, the population of which increased by 9.6% due to natural growth and immigrants from the internal provinces of Russia. The main occupation of the inhabitants of these villages was animal husbandry. The reason for the development of animal husbandry in the Russian countryside was the numerous damage caused by locusts in agriculture. Also, the military-governor considers the somewhat better material condition of Russian villages compared to other regions due to the allocation of funds for digging canals in Mirzachul as the political, economic and cultural rise of Russian colonizers in the country. [6]

In 1903, the military governor of the region was appointed in the field of agriculture, trade and industry, but it was noted that the collection of taxes from the local population was successfully carried out without the measures of the local administration. In 3 months of 1904, 86.8% of the annual tax was paid. It is known that the land tax was introduced in the region in 1892. In the report, the governor of the region wrote that the state of law and order in the Samarkand region is in a much better state than the provinces of Russia in the European region. In 1903, there were 2 hospitals and 14 outpatient clinics in the region, where 7 doctors and 2 female doctors, 34 paramedics served. If we take into account that the population of the region is 986,554 people, it becomes clear that the provision of modern medical services is behind, even the governor of the region himself emphasizes this. In 1903, the number of educational institutions in the region increased to 226. Two 8-grade gymnasiums for the Russian population have been



established in the region. In Samarkand, an evening school called "Sunday classes for adults" was organized for lower castes and local trade workers. [7]

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, although the report of the military governor of the region was compiled based on the requirements of the imperial administration, it can be used as one of the historical sources related to the economic and social life of the region at the beginning of the 20th century.

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