

INFORMATION ON RELATIONS WITH BORDERING COUNTRIES IN THE DOCUMENTS OF THE TURKESTAN GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S COURT

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Abstract

The article examines the issues of relations between the regions of the Turkestan General-Governorate and neighboring states. Using the reports of the military governors of the Transcaspian and Semirechye regions as an example, information is given on relations with Afghanistan, Iran and China. The features of relations with neighboring states in the period of the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries are studied. The main sources were the office materials of the Governor-General's Office. These materials are stored in the funds of the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Turkestan, governorship, foreign policy, international relations, source studies.

Introduction

In the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries, many documents on the relations of Turkestan with neighboring regions were kept in the country's administration office. In particular, the funds of the National Archives of Uzbekistan, such as I-2 (diplomatic official under the Governor-General of Turkestan), I-3 (political agency of the Russian Empire in Bukhara), show the relations of Turkestan with border regions – Afghanistan, Iran, China. A lot of information can be obtained about this. Although this data is reflected to a certain extent in the scientific literature, most of them have not been sufficiently studied at the research level. In particular, the documents of the I-1 fund in the fund of the Turkestan Governorate-General did not take into account the annual reports of the military governors of the Yettisuv and Kaspiyort districts, which became part of the Turkestan Governorate-General at the end of the 19th century. Governor's Court. However, these reports contain a lot of statistical data on the country's relations with neighboring regions, as well as extensive information on the work performed.

MAIN PART

It should be noted that after the establishment of the Turkestan Governorate-General, based on the Regulation introduced by the Russian Imperial Court in 1867, all governors and regional military governors were required to submit annual reports in order to constantly be aware of the situation in the province. The format of the reports consisted of many small parts, the

compilation of which took a lot of time, and there was a lot of duplicate information. Therefore, on June 19, 1870, on the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Russian Empire, all governors and regions approved the Regulation on the compilation of annual reports of military governors in a much more concise form, and the submission of reports was made mandatory. [1]

According to the plan, all military governors of all regions report on all issues of the territory (food supply, demographic situation, economic activity of the local population, taxes, social status), as well as neighboring countries and their regional economies. also transmitted messages about their position. The reports of the military governors of the Yetisuv and Kaspiyerti districts contain more information about the neighboring regions and peoples than in other regions, since they have common borders with Iran, Afghanistan and China compared to other regions, information about them. foreign relations can be obtained from the documents of the special diplomatic department operating in the Turkestan Governorate General.

In particular, the report of the military governor of the Kaspiyerti region for 1898 recorded interesting information about the trade relations between the Bukhara Emirate (in the reports it is called a khanate – E.B.) and the Khiva Khanate. Although the Kaspiyerti region serves as an intermediate point in the trade relations of the Bukhara Emirate with the Russian Empire, trade relations with the Khiva Khanate are well established. It is indicated that grain was mainly imported to the region from Khiva. According to information about the region's relations with Iran, according to customs reports, goods worth 4,977 thousand rubles were imported from Afghanistan. In turn, products worth 4,742,000 rubles were exported to Afghanistan, with the main place in mutual trade being occupied by such products as tea, cotton, wool, dried fruits, fabrics, sugar, rice, and dyes. [2]

The report explains the region's trade relations with Afghanistan by saying that although mutual trade is slow compared to Iran, the desire of the Afghan population to expand trade relations is significant, especially the opening of the Murgob branch of the Transcaspian railway. It is noted that this has created an opportunity to expand trade relations. Even the main goods imported from Afghanistan - livestock are exempt from customs duty, and all products exported from the region are exempt from customs duty in favor of Afghanistan. The report shows that the unfriendly attitude of the ruling circles of Afghanistan towards the Russian Empire negatively affected the development of mutual trade. The military governor of the region also provided information on the internal situation in Afghanistan based on available information.

The emigration of people from the country to other countries increased as a result of the policy of Abdurrahman Khan, the Emir of Afghanistan, as a result of the occupation of Kafiristan bordering the empire, the restoration of the fortress of Kalai-Nov, and the Emir to rearm his army. According to the information provided, Abdurrahman Khan, the Emir of Afghanistan, in his foreign policy was mainly an opponent of Great Britain, in particular, he sympathized with the uprising of the Indian population on the north-western border of India against the British, and even hired British engineers to the arms factory in Kabul and fired the director of the factory, Salter Pine. According to the information, Abdurrahman Khan received a subsidy

of 1,800,000 rupees per year from Great Britain for a defense alliance against the Russian Empire. [3]

Although Abdurrahman Khan was on friendly terms with the Viceroy of India, Lord N. Curzon, his main goal was to preserve the independence of Afghanistan, which meant that he would act as a buffer between the lands of the Russian Empire in Central Asia and Britain. The Kaspiyort region carried out trade relations with Afghanistan mainly through the border posts of Takhta Bazaar and partly Kushka. The reports provide interesting information about relations with Afghanistan and Iran, the domestic situation and foreign policy of the country. The report of the military governor of the Kaspiyerti region for 1908 draws attention to the specific opinions of the region's leadership regarding relations with Afghanistan. It was noted that Afghan merchants and workers entered the territory of the province freely and without hindrance. On the contrary, not a single person from the Kaspiyerti region was transferred to Afghanistan.

One of the main reasons for this was the unfavorable situation in Afghanistan at that time, as a result of which the trade turnover of the Russian Empire with Afghanistan amounted to only 0.2% of the empire's trade turnover. Afghan merchants received a profit of 3 million rubles from the trade in wet fruits, and the Kaspiyerti region sold cotton fabrics for 2 million rubles. Given these circumstances, it is proposed to conduct trade relations with Afghanistan through the addresses of Mashhad and Turbeti-Heyderi in Iran. According to information, in 1908, 10 thousand people from the Afghan Jamshidi tribe moved to the Kaspiyerti region. 7,000 of them were placed in a place called "Chamani-Bida", and the rest returned to their countries. [4]

The report of the Kaspiyorti province for 1911 (this report is registered in the Turkestan Governor-General's Court under number 15808) contains a lot of information about Iran, which borders the region. According to the source, according to the treaty of 1884, an agreement was signed between the Kaspiyorti region and Iran on the use of the Atrek River water, and the residents of the border area of Iran violated the rules for using the Atrek water. As a result, with the help of the Russian Consulate General in Mashhad, a fine of 2,000 rubles was collected from them. The documents of the Turkestan Governor-General's Court also contain information about the distribution of the waters of the Zarafshan River between the Bukhara Emirate and the Samarkand region. The report assesses the political situation in such regions of Iran as Khorasan, Mashhad and Astrobad. There is more information about Afghanistan, since as a result of internal conflicts in this country, trade relations conducted through the Caspian Sea have somewhat decreased compared to previous years. [5]

The above-mentioned sources indicate that in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Caspian region had relations with neighboring Iran and Afghanistan as a province of the Russian Empire, and the reports of the military governors of the region contain more diplomatic information about these countries. However, according to the sources, the inhabitants of the border areas are very eager to establish good relations, especially trade relations. Geographically, the Yettisuv region borders most of its territory with China. That is why the foreign policy part of the reports of the military governors of the region focuses on relations with China. For example, in 1905, the military governor of the Yettisuv region, Lieutenant General Ionov, noted in his report that relations with China were friendly. Since the border

regions of Yetisuw and China are mountainous, the main subject of discussion between them is pasture land for livestock, which is often resolved through negotiations.

According to the information, the desire of young people in the border region of China to study Russian in schools in the Yetisuw area is growing. For example, five more Chinese children joined their ranks after Chinese children studying in an educational institution in the city of Verny returned from vacation. According to the information in the report, Russian consuls in China have noted an increased interest in conducting a new economy in the regions bordering the Yetisuw area. In order to implement new directions for the development of agriculture, the leaders of the border regions of China purchased a new Russian-made plow and other agricultural equipment in the city of Verny. According to the Russian consul, a decision has been made to extend the railway under construction from the Chinese city of Xianfu to the city of Liangzhoufu and to the city of Urumqi, which is located near Yetisuw.

In turn, the Yetisuw region built a 135 km long stone road from the last post station in Norin to the Turugart Pass on the border with China in order to get closer to the outcast Kashgar region. The Chinese side responded positively to this work and, in turn, planned to build a road from the Turugart Pass to Kashgar, and for this purpose asked to send a Russian specialist who supervised the construction work in Yetisuw. [6]

In his report for 1906, the military governor of the region, Lieutenant General Ionov, stated that the construction of the stone road to Kashgar was completed. [7] Soon, as a result of reforms in China, news spread about the plan to build the Tashkent-Verny railway, and a source reported that engineering work had even begun. In 1911, the military governor of the Yettisuv region also reported that friendly relations with the Ili region of China were continuing and even under the pretext of revising the treaties of 1881, the state of combat readiness of the military forces was increasing. on both sides, but the border Kyrgyz noted that the relations between the population and the citizens of China had not changed. As early as the fall of 1911, an international congress was held in the city of Kure to resolve disputes between the Kirghiz of Lepsin and the Chahors in China. Issues in the middle were resolved by mutual agreement. [8]

CONCLUSION

In short, the annual reports of the military governors of the Yettisuv and Kaspiyort districts, which are received by the fund of the Turkestan Governor-General's Court, are important sources of the country's relations with the bordering countries. The reports of the military governors of the Caspian region contain a lot of information about the relations of neighboring countries, especially Afghanistan, with China.

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