

## INFLUENCE OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TURKESTAN ON THE SOCIAL LIFE OF THE PEOPLE

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### Annotation:

The article provides information about the creation of Russian banks and branches in Turkestan at the beginning of the 20th century, the close connection of Russian banks with international banks, the management of the State Bank and the Russian-Asian Bank, as well as the impact of the development of trade and economics in Turkestan on the social life of the people.

**Keywords:** trade, economics, bank, Turkestan, cotton, public life, credit, General Skobelev, railway.

### Introduction

The conquest of Central Asia by the Russian Empire was recorded in 1885 with the establishment of the Pamir post and the establishment of the Afghan border. The entire territory from the Caspian Sea to the Pamirs was demarcated, the north of which, although Bukhara and Khiva were outwardly independent, became a colony of the Russian Empire. Russian capitalism was the most backward part of world capitalism. The government of Nicholas II had no investments that could be made in new colonies. A large army was maintained in Central Asia, military campaigns were continuously carried out, which required enormous expenses. A feature of the development of capitalism in Central Asia was that more than half of Russian capital investments were invested not in industry, but in trade, where the greatest profits were guaranteed.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Russian banks and their branches were created in Turkestan. During this period, the activities of Russian banks began to be closely linked with the activities of foreign banks, and they made joint efforts and increased their income. The departments of the State Bank and the Russian-Asian Bank played a very important role in the implementation of these works. Branches of these banks were opened in all cotton-growing districts of the General Government. They bought gin cotton, made loans, owned cotton gins and oil companies, built railroads, etc.

The influx of Russian banking capital into Turkestan served to accelerate industrial development, railway construction and trade development. However, branches of Russian banks became moneylenders. They constantly increased interest rates on loans, as a result of which peasants were forced to sell their land, property and tools in order to pay off their debts and go to the city to earn money. For example, in 1912, the population owed about 200 million soums on loans, and the number of landless peasants in the Tashkent and Andijan regions amounted to 50% of all households. Thus, Russian banks received unprecedented profits and did not care at all about the fate of the peasants, their families and children.

The wealth of Turkestan could only be transported through the development of a transport system. Transporting millions of bales of cotton along caravan routes was difficult and expensive. Railroads were necessary to transport goods cheaply and easily. The first railway was built in Turkestan in June 1880. General Skobelev ordered the construction of the first 70 km long railway through the sands to

transport artillery from Krasnovodsk to Kyzylarvat. In 1881, the railway reached Kyzylarvat and its length reached 217 km. At that time, trains were pulled not by horses, but by steam. In May 1885, construction work began on the railway to Ashgabat. In November 1888, a bridge was built across the Amu Darya, and the first train to Samarkand passed through it. In 1898-1899, the construction of the railway between Tashkent and Andijan was completed. In 1906, a railway with a length of more than 2 thousand km from Orenburg to Tashkent was put into operation. From 1914 to 1916, the Namangan-Jalalabad-Fergana-Andijan-Osh railway was built, which brought Russia to the borders of China. Now the transportation time from Fergana to Moscow has been reduced from one and a half months to 4 days. At the same time, the Samarkand-Bukhara-Karshi-Termez railway was built, and Russia was able to reach the borders of Afghanistan.

The construction of the railway had a dual significance. On the one hand, the railroad would pass close to the growing areas, and cotton, minerals, and non-ferrous metals could be easily exported from there. Cotton, rice, fruits, cottonseed oil, oil, fuel oil, kerosene, salt, silk, wool and much more were constantly transported from Turkestan to Russia. On the other hand, the railway also had military significance. It ran from Krasnovodsk to Andijan, which made it possible to quickly transfer troops from one country to another to suppress rebellions.

Tsarist Russia would have been an obstacle to the development of the country's productive forces. For example, Count Palen, a tsarist official, wrote: "Despite the fact that Russia has owned Turkestan for 40 years, it is not noticeable that this country, rich in natural conditions and being a Russian cotton field, is revived by industrial capital, industry and trade are in the same in its infancy, the earth and the underground are empty."

Tashkent, Samarkand, Kokand, Namangan, Andijan, Khojent, Kazalinsk, Shymkent were the major cities of Turkestan. Military towns were also built, in which Russian soldiers, officials and merchants first settled. Among such cities are Kazalinsk, Petro-Alexandrovsk, Skobelev, Chernyaevka.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the number of urban residents in Turkestan increased due to immigrants from Russia. For example, in 1910, 210,000 people lived in Tashkent, 113,000 in Kokand, and 89,000 in Samarkand. New residents settled in a separate quarter (mahalla). For example, the river flowing through the center of Tashkent divided the city into old (Muslim) and new (Russian) parts. In the new areas, streets were widened, gardens were laid, and water supply was installed. In 1909 the first power station was built. Three years later, the city was illuminated with electricity. Electric trams appeared in 1913.

The length of the tram route was 23 km. In the cities, all decrees, orders, instructions and orders were issued in Russian, as a result of which the cities became Russian-speaking. The local population will not be able to get used to life here and will be forced to look for housing in old cities.

The situation in industry was also not the best. Before the cotton "temptation," large-scale industrial production practically did not exist in Turkestan. The activities of local entrepreneurs were based on the production of small handicrafts.

At the end of the 19th century, local industry began to develop in the country. It had a purely colonial character as an agrarian and raw materials committee of Russian industry. 70% of its enterprises were enterprises in the cotton ginning industry, 7% in the oil industry, and 5% in the food industry. Industry was very poorly developed, at the same time it was one-sided in nature and mainly served the needs of the Russian Empire.

This feature of production also affected trade relations between Turkestan and Russia. Flour, wheat, rye, food products, as well as fabrics, yarn, wool, and silk were imported from Russia. In 1867-1900, 175 industrial enterprises were launched in Turkestan, 80 percent of them were engaged in primary processing of cotton.

All plans of Tsarist Russia regarding Turkestan were related to the development of cotton growing. It was supposed to turn the entire country into a huge cotton field, not only to supply Russia with cotton, but also to export it to the foreign market. Fergana, Syrdarya and Samarkand regions were to remain among the most important centers of cotton growing. Realizing that growing cotton is impossible without an extensive irrigation system, the country began research and construction of irrigation canals. In 1891, a canal was built capable of irrigating 200 acres of land. New cities appeared with orchards, cotton fields and police stations. In 1911, construction of the main canal on the Syr Darya began, and by 1913 this work was completed. However, in the Tashkent oasis, many irrigation projects in the Samarkand region and Fergana Valley have not been implemented. According to a decree issued by the tsarist authorities, "all Russian citizens of the Christian faith" could settle on irrigated lands.

Cotton was a highly profitable commodity, second in importance only to oil and gold. A country located in a cotton-growing region was believed to have great potential wealth as the world's demand for cotton was constantly increasing. But its prosperity depended on how freely the state disposed of its products. Cotton grown in Turkestan was entirely owned by the Tsarist government, with the result that cotton became the source of wealth for Tsarist Russia and the cause of the impoverishment and destruction of the local population.

Grain production in Turkestan fell sharply, leaving the population dependent on food imports from Russia. Impoverished peasants were forced to sell their plots, which led to a sharp increase in the number of landless and landless peasants.

The transformation of Turkestan into a colony of the Russian Empire worsened the situation not only of peasants, but also of artisans. Cotton exported to Russia returned to Turkestan in the form of gauze and satin, which destroyed local handicraft production, depriving it of tens of thousands of weaving dynasties that supplied their products not only to Central Asia, but also to neighboring countries.

Russian capital turned Turkestan into a monopoly market for its industrial goods, drawing it into the world market, but the introduction of Russian goods displaced centuries-old local crafts. On the other hand, Russian capital slowed down the development of productive forces in order to increase Turkestan's dependence on the metropolis. Thus, Russian capital introduced new market relations into the colonial economy.

Labor was widely developed in the Fergana Valley. The workers were wage laborers, mostly landless peasants who worked 10 hours a day with their hoe. They were paid in accordance with the agreement. Another form of employment was housing, which was also practiced by landless peasants. The peasant usually left his family in his country and left for 7-8 months to rent land from large landowners. The owner of the land gave him seeds for planting, hired workers, provided him with tools, living quarters and kitchen utensils. Charakor worked in the field from planting seeds to harvesting. By 1916, 80 percent of the village population were workers and farm laborers.

The situation was also difficult for other peasant farms that retained ownership of land. They borrowed money and seeds and could not pay them back, so they were forced to take out new loans

under more onerous terms. The debt grew from year to year, and the interest increased, often ending in the seizure or sale of land. Peasants became laborers or laborers. By the time of the First World War, Turkestan peasants were on the verge of complete ruin. 50 percent of the peasants were in debt, and every year 500 peasant lands were sold for next to nothing.

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