

TRADE RELATIONS OF KOKAND WITH RUSSIA IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE XIX CENTURY

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Abstract

This article is devoted to the trade relations of Turkestan region with Russia in the late XIX - early XX centuries, and Kokand city role, which became the center of the trading life of Fergana Valley in these relations.

Key words:

Kokand, Fergana region, Turkestan region, raw cotton, trade, import, goods, bourgeoisie, bank, capital.

By the beginning of the second half of the XIX century, Kokand became the center of commercial life in the Fergana Valley. Trade caravans from all over the valley gathered in Kokand, from where they went to Bukhara and Khiva khanates, to Tashkent, the Kazakh steppe and to Russia. Merchants from Kokand traded in Orenburg, Troitsk, Petropavlovsk, Semipalatinsk, Omsk, at the Irbit and Nizhny Novgorod fairs. Most of the trade between Kokand and Russia in the 1950s and 1960s was carried out through Orenburg and Semipalatinsk. According to V.V. Velyaminov-Zernov, from 1850 to 1854 goods worth 631,354 rubles 13 kopecks were brought from Kokand to Orenburg.¹ The export from Kokand to Semipalatinsk in the 50s of the XIX century amounted to 28446 rubles per year, and in general, the annual export of goods from Kokand to Russia then reached an average of 157,000 rubles.

From Kokand to Russia, they imported raw cotton and cotton products, raw silk and silk products, dry fruits, woolen and leather goods, dressing gowns, long-term tea and brick tea, rice, lambskin, etc.

If raw cotton and raw silk, leather and wool went mainly for factories in Russia, then finished handicrafts were distributed among the Kazakh steppe and Siberia population. For example, in 1862 Bukhara and Kokand traders permanently lived and received goods for the Kazakh steppe only in Fort Perovsky.

In the first half of the 1860s, there was a certain decline in trade between Russia and Kokand. This was due to the hostilities that took place at that time. But trade relations between Russia and Kokand did not stop even during the period of the Central Asia conquest. For example, from 1862 to 1865 goods worth 1,975,395 rubles were sent from Kokand and Tashkent to Russia.

Kokand played an important role as a point of transit trade. This can be seen, for example, from the data of Tashkent Fair Committee. Only at the autumn-spring fairs in 1871-1874 through Kokand from the cities of Fergana Valley, Karategin, Darvaz, as well as East Turkestan, goods worth 7,856,607 rubles were imported.²

The trade and economic relations development between Russia and Kokand was influenced by the uprising in 1873-1876, which ended with the liquidation of Kokand Khanate and the formation of Fergana region as part of the Turkestan General Government. From this moment a new stage in the trade and economic life of Kokand begins.

Kokand is gradually restoring its positions in trade, temporarily lost during the uprising. Already in 1877, goods were sent from Kokand to Russia on 9043 camels. These were mainly cotton, silk, leather and other raw materials intended for factories and plants in Russia³.

In 1886, a total of 809,971 rubles worth goods were sent to Moscow, out of which 694,393 rubles were cotton and raw silk. Kokand received factory-made finished products from Russia.

In the second half of the 80s, with the cotton growing development in Fergana region, when experiments were carried out to improve the local variety, as well as to grow American cotton, Kokand became one of the cotton trade centers in Central Asia. Representatives of Russian manufactory factories and firms begin to come here to buy cotton.

On February 7, 1889, 48 representatives of trading firms, transport offices and cotton traders turned to Kokand district chief with a request to expand the territory of the cotton bazaar. «...Even now, when, probably, 8/10 parts of all cotton have already been bought up and sent to Russia, the cotton sheds (in Kokand - Sh. B.) are so overflowing with cotton that there is absolutely nowhere to turn to»⁴— they complained in their address.

In 1893, refined American-grade cotton 1,303,486 poods and local 74,641 poods were sent from Kokand to Russia. In 1894-1895, goods produced in the Kokand district were sent to Russia for 10,819,218 rubles (mainly cotton and silk)⁵.

From Russia, Kokand received factory-made cotton products, paints, copper, iron and cast iron products, sugar, glass goods, watches, teapots and much more. These goods were delivered by Kokand merchants to all the cities of Fergana Valley and neighboring estates.

In the 50s-60s of the XIX century, Orenburg took the first place in the goods import from Russia to Kokand. If the average export from Semipalatinsk to Kokand from 1850 to 1860 was 16 851 rubles, then through Orenburg in the same period, goods were exported to Kokand an average of 70 748 rubles per year. The insignificant volume of imports from Semipalatinsk to Kokand is explained by the fact that Kokand merchants, who traded in Semipalatinsk along with Tashkent and Bukhara ones, played an active intermediary role in the Russian trade with Western China.

According to V.V. Velyaminov-Zernov, the import of goods from Russia to Kokand from 1850 to 1860 amounted to 83,000 thousand rubles a year⁶.

After the annexation of Tashkent to Russia (1865) and the formation of the Turkestan General Government (1867), trade relations between Russia and Central Asia began to develop especially rapidly. And if from 1862 to 1865 goods were brought from Russia to Tashkent and Kokand for 794,214 rubles, then in 1866 - by 3,187,124 rubles, and in 1867 - by 5,478,177 rubles⁷

If earlier Russian merchants traded with the Central Asian khanates through their Muslim clerks, now they begin to conduct direct trade with the khanates. In 1866, the Moscow first guild, the merchant M. Khludov, was the first Russian merchant to set off with a trade caravan to Kokand, seizing goods worth 300 thousand rubles.

The conclusion in 1868 of a trade agreement between the Turkestan General Governorship and the Kokand Khanate equated the position of Russian merchants and industrialists with those of Kokand in the right to pay zakat. Russian merchants were also given the right to stay everywhere in the khanate and set up caravanserais.

Russian merchants brought their goods to Kokand, and from there Kokand merchants transported them to other cities of the khanate and neighboring estates. It is characteristic that during the spring-autumn fair of 1871 Russian merchants imported into Kokand goods worth 632,964 rubles 64 kopecks, and exported from there to different cities of the Turkestan Territory and Russia - for 700,277 rubles 93 kopecks.

In the turnover of the Tashkent Fair in 1871-1879, Russia occupied the first place, and Kokand was in second place. The main cotton and raw silk suppliers were also Kokand traders. Only at the April fair of 1871, cotton worth 206,039 rubles was brought from Central Asia and neighboring countries, including from Kokand - for 190 512 rubles 43% of the total amount of Russian

manufactory brought to Tashkent in 1871 was sent to Kokand, and through it - to other cities of the Fergana Valley and to East Turkestan.

At the end of the 1870s, the role of Russian firms in trade with Kokand increased markedly. Only the firm of D.M.Pupyshev at that time annually sent goods to Bukhara and Kokand worth up to 1.5 million rubles.

According to archival data, back in the second half of the 70s, Kokand in terms of its trade turnover ranked first among the cities of Fergana region, and in the Turkestan region - the second (after Tashkent). In 1879, its trade turnover was 10 million rubles per year⁸.

Russian manufactory factories, receiving raw cotton from Central Asia, brought here calicoes, shawls and other products of factory production. The main suppliers of manufactured goods from Russia to Kokand were Moscow and Yaroslavl factories. Only in 1886-1887, goods worth 1,264,120 rubles were sent from Moscow factories to Kokand.

In the second half of the XIX century, Kokand played an important role in Russia's trade with East Turkestan, and through it, with internal China. Merchants from East Turkestan, in turn, successfully traded with Kokand, and through it entered the Russian markets. The trade turnover between Kokand and Kashgar in the late 50s and early 60s of the XIX century was about 5 million rubles per year. Only tea from Kashgar to Kokand received about 300 thousand poods a year.

By the end of the 19th century, the role of Kokand in the tea trade of Russia in Central Asia also noticeably increased. If in 1871-1874, tea was imported to Kokand from Russia for 637 882 rubles (at a price from 1 ruble to 1 ruble and 10 kopecks per pound) 9, then only in 1879-1880 3 102 654 arrived from Kyakhta, Troitsk, Irbit Fair and Moscow to Kokand pounds of tea (400,900 pounds of brick and 2,701,754 pounds of long-term, 65-70 kopecks per pound)

The successful development of Russia's tea trade in the Fergana and other regions of the Turkestan Territory were facilitated by such measures as changes in the payment of customs duties, the extension of the Trans-Caspian railway to Andijan and the opening of customs in Kokand. Earlier, tea going from Bombay through Bukhara to Turkestan was paid with a duty at Bukhara customs. Here Afghans and Bukharians held the tea trade in their hands. In addition, according to the rules for the payment of zakat in force in Bukhara, 2% in excess of the duty was paid in favor of the Bukhara emir. These provisions did not meet the interests of Russian tea firms.

After the railway extension to Samarkand (1888) and the starting point transfer of the road to Krasnovodsk (1894), large Russian tea firms began to subscribe tea not from Bombay, but from Shanghai and Hankou, sending it to Kokand in transit through Batumi with payment of a duty to Baku and Askhabad. But here, too, there were difficulties. So, tea from Samarkand to Kokand was delivered by horse-drawn transport with great difficulties on dirt roads.

In 1896, when the issue of extending the Trans-Caspian railway to Andijan was resolved, Kokand tea merchants and tea firms turned to the Minister of Finance with a request to open an independent customs office in Kokand. On November 1, 1898, Fergana customs section management was transferred from New Margelan to Kokand, and on March 1, 1899, a first class customs office was opened in Kokand. From that time on, Kokand began to compete with the main tea market in Central Asia, Samarkand. If in the year of opening of the Kokand customs office 261,273 pounds of green and black tea were passed through it, then in 1900 only four tea-packing rooms passed 1,075,932 pounds of tea there.

Conclusion:

Thus, during the period under review, Kokand city played an active role in trade relations development between Central Asia and Russia. Trade relations between Russia and the Turkestan territory through Kokand are reaching a significant rise. The main departure items from the Turkestan region to Russia during this period were cotton, cottonseed oil, fruit, silk, etc. Kokand city becomes the center of this trade in Central Asia.

References

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