



THE ROLE OF "TURKESTANSKIE VEDOMOSTI" IN THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF THE SURKHANDARYA OASIS (SECOND HALF OF THE XIX - EARLY XX CENTURIES)

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: September 8 th 2021 Accepted: October 7 th 2021 Published: November 22 th 2021	This article is a historical analysis of the history of the Surkhandarya oasis, published in the second half of the XIX and early XX centuries in Turkestan, published by Russian orientalists, military, political, economic and social articles.
Keywords: Surkhan oasis, Eastern Bukhara, periodicals, "Turkestanskije vedomosti", Russian orientalists, military	

INTRODUCTION

After the conquest of the Central Asian khanates by the Russian Empire, the Turkestan Governor-General established his main base here. Its capital was Tashkent. The Russian Empire laid the foundations for the early periodical press, which operated on the basis of its own ideas for the comprehensive study of Turkestan. Under the administration of the official organ of the governor-general's office in Tashkent, the newspaper *Turkestanskije Vedomosti* was published from 1870 to 1883. It was the first official newspaper in Turkestan to establish a periodical in Central Asia. The *Turkestan Vedomosti* was published in 6,406 issues between 1870 and 1917. Among the scientific articles published in the pages of this newspaper, we can find a lot of historical, geographical, ethnographic, toponymic, archeological information about the history of the Surkhandarya oasis. "Central Asian Trade System" (*Turkestan Gazette*, February 22, 1871-5), Essays on the Hissar Territory (Baysun; *Turkestan Gazette*, February 3, 1876), "Irrigation of Termez" Many articles focus on the climate, agriculture and economic situation of the oasis, as well as the development of industry. After the conquest of Central Asia, the Russian Empire sought to turn it into a source of raw materials to meet its own needs.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Since the Emirate of Bukhara was part of the Russian Empire, the rulers of the period began to acquire lands that were convenient for them. One such area was the Surkhan oasis, which was considered the eastern part of the Bukhara Emirate and was strategically located with Afghanistan. As one of the most ancient places of mankind, it is possible to cite historical data on the social, economic and cultural life of the Surkhandarya oasis. The nature of the oasis and its favorable agricultural potential have attracted the

attention of Russian officials. In particular, the expansion of cotton fields, and the direct involvement of the government in the expansion of irrigation and irrigation. The *Turkestanskije Vedomosti* newspaper published an article in 1909 by the Russian orientalist D.N. Logofet entitled "New Land", which stated: The Fergana Valley, Samarkand, the Caspian Sea, the Khiva Khanate, and the Emirate of Bukhara were vast areas for cotton fields. G. Ermolaev, a military engineer, was one of the first to try to provide information on the irrigation potential of the Amu Darya. [4] He also organized a special expedition led by G. Mindera to design a special irrigated land. The engineering work carried out required a separate stop on the lands around Bukhara. In particular, the restoration of the irrigation system along the tracks of the old Amu Darya will open up new opportunities for the construction of new ones and higher yields of cotton. Only the calculation of the lands in the fortifications of Termez shows that with the construction of a new state-owned canal by the Russians, cotton was planted on almost all the lands that were newly irrigated by engineering institutions. Given that rivers such as the Amu Darya, Surkhandarya, Vakhsh, Kofirnihon, Panj, and Kizilsuv flow through the Eastern Bukhara region, they could be used to expand cotton fields. "[5] On January 13, 1909, DN Logofet published an article in the same newspaper entitled "Rehabilitation of the Surkhandarya River, a tributary of the Amu Darya," in which the author focuses on creating opportunities for cotton fields.

The *Turkestanskije Vedomosti* newspaper published articles on the development of industry, the advent of the railway and the history of trade in Pattakesar in 1910-210. Pattakesar, originally a Russian settlement, was an important strategic point of the Russian Empire due to its location on the Amu Darya. *Turkestanskije Vedomosti* reported on July 11,



1910, that the Russian Empire had sought to improve trade relations and trade with Afghanistan, mainly through the Kerki, Takhti Bazar, and Amu Darya customs posts in the Emirate of Bukhara. Traders from Bukhara have set up outlets for export goods in these areas. In the Samarkand customs detachment, the sealed cargo for traders was up to 30 tiyins up to the border. Taking into account the need to cross the territory of five fortresses to Afghanistan, it took up to 1 to 50 tons for traders. Kelif, Chuchka-Guzar, Termez, Ayvazh, Saray, Chubek and Bogarak are the border customs posts of the Bukhara Emirate. The only roundabout was the road from Samarkand to Termez. *Turkestanskije Vedomosti* reported from October 21, 1908 to November 217: The Pioneer Mail (India) reported that the Russian Empire was seeking to develop trade and industry in Central Asia. The Termez Military District's irrigation system is well-established, the Amu Darya flotilla is thriving, and Termez's trade with northern Afghanistan, where it was easy to find work, is well established [8]. The article "Boat industry in the Amu Darya" published in the newspaper "Turkestanskije Vedomosti" on October 24, 1908-220 emphasizes the role of local shipbuilders in Bukhara and Khiva in the development of the boat industry on the Amu Darya. Local boats were sparsely spaced and short. The boats were mainly used to transport the cargo Chorjoi-Termez of the cotton factory.

Termez	Termez 20-25	Kerki-	Chorjoi 40-50
Kerki	20-25	-	20-25
Chorjoi	40-50k	20-25k	-

Shipping varied depending on the season.

Routes of Charjou-Khiva cities:

In the spring -15t- 30t

Summer-30t-40t

In the fall -40t-50t

Prices for heavy cargo boats range from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds to 1,600 to 1,800 rubles, from 1,000 pounds to 1,000 rubles, and from 500 pounds to 400 to 500 rubles. Such a trade system has led to the development of the cotton industry in Central Asia, especially in the Fergana Valley, Zeravshan, Syrdarya and the Bukhara Emirate. The shipbuilding industry played an important role in the activities of the Amu Darya flotilla. Boats are also reported to have played an important role in the transportation of factory and plant cargo along the Amu Darya [9].

CONCLUSION

To summarize, the articles published on the pages of "Turkestanskije Vedomosti" on various topics serve as an important source for the study of the history of the Surkhandarya oasis ethnographically,

toponymically, as well as politically, economically and culturally.

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