

The Role Of The Fergana Region In Trade And Economic Relations Of The Turkestan General-Governorate With Eastern Turkestan In The Second Half Of Xix – Early Xx Centuries Centuries

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Abstract

The article is devoted to the trade policy of Russia with Kashgar (East Turkestan) through Central Asia in the second half of the 19th and early 19th centuries. Fergana region (Kokand) became one of the main transfer points in Russian-Kashgar trade relations. After the conquest of the region by the Russian Empire, the colonial rulers sought to benefit from the development of trade both in local markets and in the territories adjacent to Turkestan's external borders, using the capital of foreign and local entrepreneurs. The export of raw materials and the import of finished products were established.

Keywords: Russia, Kashgar, East Turkestan, Turkestan Territory, Kokand Exchange Committee, Kokand customs, Irkeshtam crossing point, cotton, premium goods, oil mill, textile industry, raw materials, trade, merchants, advance payment, duty, entrepreneur.

1. Introduction

In the second half of the 19th - at the beginning of the 20th century, the commercial and industrial center of the Fergana region was the city of Kokand, where all the largest trade institutions of the Fergana Valley were concentrated. With the establishment of the Kokand customs and the Irkeshtam crossing point in 1889 the correct accounting of trade affairs and the correct maintenance of trade statistics between Russia and Kashgar through the Fergana region began. Kokand customs became one of the main transfer points in Russian-Kashgar trade relations.

2. Research methods

A complex of historical method such as objectivity, historicity, historical sequence, based on a systematic analysis of archival materials were used to cover the topic

3. Research results

Kokand is located in the east of Uzbekistan, in the southwestern part of the Fergana Valley.

A number of funds in the archival funds of the National Archives of Uzbekistan store the most

valuable information and materials both on the history of the Kokand Khanate and on the time of the subordination of this city to the Russian Empire. With a rich history in trade and merchant affairs the city became one of the key cities of the empire.

Due to the convenient location at the crossroads of trade routes and the incredible work of both city residents (primarily merchants and artisans, whose products were in demand in other cities of the region) and adjacent territories (cities and villages, from other places by merchants - Kokands of goods of a daily and seasonal nature) the city retained its socio-economic status.

Among the markets in the Fergana Valley the Kokand market was in the first place and was distinguished by its retail price and variety of products. In the city of Kokand market relations with Kashgar, Bukhara, Khiva and Russian cities retained a significant role. Goods brought from Kashgar were sent to the Fergana Valley to the cities of Kokand and Margilan and it was from here that they were distributed throughout Turkestan [1: P.45-48].

Thus, it can be argued that in the field of market relations Kokand ranked first in

comparison with other cities not only in the Fergana Valley, but in the entire Turkestan Territory as a whole. The traditional crafts of the city of Kokand were sericulture, jewelry, blacksmithing and pottery, the production of weapons and paper, weaving, embroidery and skullcaps, the construction of bridges, etc.

The famous orientalist V.V. Velyaminov-Zernov turning his attention to the development of trade relations noted that the Kokand Khanate had trade communications through Kokand-Kashgar [2: P.130].

On the basis of the 1881 treaty between Russia and China trade routes between the Fergana region and Kashgar began to improve. This event influenced the increase in caravan traffic. So in the period of 1885-1886 from Kashgar to Kokand a caravan consisting of 3,164 camels arrived with goods worth 1,423,459 rubles. [3: L.1 (about), 4 (about)]. Another important article of import from Kashgar was animal products: lamb fat, intestines and various types of leather and wool. According to the data of the Tashkent customs inspection site from 1895 to 1899, 31,141 po, 31,141 poods of these products were brought from Kashgar to Kokand [4: L.7-8].

It should be noted that Russian goods entering Kashgar were exported from the Fergana Valley mainly by Kokand Margelan and Andijan merchants. According to B.L Gromchevsky who visited Kashgar in 1885 320 merchants from Kokand, Andijan and Margelan were constantly in the Kashgar region and carried out trade operations [5: p. 99]. These merchants lived in the following cities of Kashgar: in Kashgar - 120 people, in Yangi-Gisar - 20, in Yarkand - 70, in Khotan - 80 and in Keriya - 30 [6: P.104].

Naturally, trade routes to Kashgar could pass through many cities in the valley. V.V. Velyaminov-Zernov wrote that "annually they bring from Kashgar to Kokand: 30,000 horses for tea, green, brick and low grade phymal, 200 horses for white felt, 200 horses for alum, 50 horses for Chinese cups and 50 horses for groceries" [7: P.130].

With the establishment of the Kokand customs house and the Irkeshtam crossing point in 1889 the correct accounting of trade cases in accordance with the requirements of customs regulations between Russia and Kashgar through the Fergana regio began. Kokand customs served not only as a warehouse for receiving and storing various goods but also for distributing them to the population of the Fergana Valley. It has become one of the main transfer points in Russian-Kashgar trade relations.

The Kokand customs had I class and III class with a two-year reserve right*. It gave merchants who trade with Kashgar shipping certificates, on the presentation of which it was allowed to enter the Kashgar markets without hindrance.

In the very first year of the opening of the customs office there were so many people wishing to send goods through it to Kashgaria that the customs officers had to work until midnight [8: L.259]. From the moment the customs office was opened on March 18, 1899 to December 16, 1899, according to 122 applications, 7,604 boxes of various products weighing 29,849 poods were imported from it into Kashgar according to 122 applications. [9: L.215, 216 (about)], and for 1899-1900 from the customs in Kashgar were exported, mainly sugar, matches, manufactory and other Russian goods - 2.5 million rubles. [10: P.61].

The main markets for the sale of Kashgar goods in the Fergana region were the markets of Kokand and Margelan, through which these goods were sent to Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara. Such goods as leather, wool, silk and cotton were exported to European Russia [11: P.61].

The raw materials exported from East Turkestan to Russia were good quality and was bought in the Kashgar markets at very low prices, which promised large profits for the capitalists of Russia. So, at the end of the XIX century a pood of fiber in the Kashgar market was bought for 1 ruble. 80 kopecks and was sold in Osh for 5-6 rubles. [12: P.56].

The road from Kashgar to Kokand took 23 days. As a rule, caravans departed in early June and consisted of 1,000-1,500 horses loaded with goods; camels were used only to transport tents, clothing, and travel supplies and supplies. There were Kabul, Persian, Bukhara, Kokand and Tashkent merchants in the caravans [13: P.348].

Pointing to the good quality and cheapness of Kashgar cotton, and the prospects for the future, one of the customs officials noted: several million rubles "[14: L.83].

The needs of Russian cotton factories for Kashgar cotton influenced the increase in its import to Russia. So, if in 1901 cotton was imported from Kashgar to Russia - by 29,781 rubles, in 1902 - by 48,656 rubles, in 1903 - by 395,007 rubles, then in 1904 - by rubles 617,752 [15: L. 53-54].

Although the development of trade between Russia and East Turkestan was influenced by such factors as the lack of a

telegraph and correct postal communication, the poor condition of the roads leading to Kashgar from Fergana and the lack of transportation means, the trade turnover between them is growing every year. So, by the beginning of the XX century the number of traders with Kashgar reached up to 2 thousand people [16: L.41].

The increase in trade was influenced by the so-called "bonuses" on some Russian goods exported to Kashgar, such as: manufacture, sugar, kerosene, matches, etc. The amount of such bonuses, for example, on cotton fabrics dyed with madder, reached 6 rubles. 25 kopecks from a pood and on a harsh yarn - 5 rubles. 30 kopecks from a pood. Export of the awarded manufactory at the beginning of the 20th century along the Chinese border through the Fergana region reached 40-50 thousand poods for the amount of premiums up to 240 thousand rubles in year. In addition, through the Kokand customs, the following was exported with the addition of excise tax: sugar (refined and sand) about 13 thousand poods, lighting oils - 1.3 thousand poods and over 3.5 million boxes of matches [17: L.165].

Russian premium goods, traveling to Kashgar with the release labels of the Kokand customs were allowed through the Irkeshtam crossing point without hindrance, only with a check of the number of boxes and bags. Also, according to the permission of the Minister of Finance, merchants trading in Kashgar were allowed to deposit money in advance in the Kokand customs office in advance on account of duties for goods inspected in Kashgar [18: L.72-73].

After the manufactured goods exported from Russia to Kashgar, sugar and lighting oils were in great demand. The main suppliers of refined sugar and granulated sugar were the Lebedinsky, Raigorodsky and Olfovetsky factories of the Kiev province, the Vendychevsky sugar factory of the Podolsk province and others. The Nobel Brothers Partnership supplied Kashgaria with lighting oils and matches. So, in 1908 the above factories and partnerships, through the Kokand customs to Kashgar were exported: granulated sugar - 5,957 poods, refined sugar - 7,077 poods, kerosene - 1,308 poods, matches (boxes of 75 pieces each) - 3 466 595 boxes [19: L.75].

By 1909 the trade between Russia and East Turkestan through the Irkeshtam crossing point and Kokand customs sharply decreased. So, in the first four months of 1909, the import of Chinese paper fabrics (mats) to the Kokand customs decreased compared to 1908 - by

102,142 rubles, raw silk - by 45,530 rubles, felt (felt) - by 39 014 rubles, sheep furs - 12 650 rubles, dyed fabrics - 2 620 rubles, woolen carpets - 7 505 rubles, woolen carpets - 2 055 rubles. etc., totaling 392,893 rubles. [20: L.24].

The leading role in trade relations between Kashgar and Fergana (Kokand) was occupied by trade in silk fabrics. In 1914 alone, goods worth 3,410,000 rubles were imported from Kashgar to Fergana, such as silk and other types of fabrics, felt, leather items, carpets, black tea and other products. From Fergana to Kashgar in 1914, goods worth 3,624,000 rubles were sent, consisting of such items as: cotton and silk fabrics, objects made of iron and steel, various types of glass products, matches, tobacco products, sewing machines, velvet and silk fabrics [21: L.103].

Silk fabrics were taken from Kokand and Margilan to Marseille (France), Constantinople and to the European part of Russia [22: P.190-191]. Also silk fabrics were in demand in countries such as India and Iran. Silk played an important role in market relations with Russia. The demand for silk grew year after year. For example, only in the Kokand district in 1906, 28,962 poods of raw cocoons were produced, which is equal to 376506 rubles of the empire of that time [23: P.31].

The same year cocoons were sold both to the domestic and foreign markets in the amount of 24,866 rubles [23: p.31], silkworms in the amount of 1,400 rubles, then in 1885 this amount was already 228,000 rubles. [25: L.115-146, 188-190], while almost all the silk-reels were handicraft, and in Kokand, taking into account the villages included in the county, there were 70 silk-reels, the annual productivity of which was equal to 32,245 rubles [26: P.32].

In the same period, the exchange rate for the Chinese tenga falls sharply, while the Russian ruble rose to 1 ruble 50 kopecks, which in turn reduced the purchasing power of Kashgar merchants by one third and affected the demand for Russian goods [27: L.18]. The reason for this phenomenon was the law of January 16, 1909, according to which the duty ("li-jin") was increased on goods imported and exported to China along the eastern border [28: L.88].

In March 1909 at the request of the Kokand and Margelan merchants trading in Kashgaria the customs inspector of the Fergana section, the state adviser N. Fedorov, checked the trade of Russian-citizens merchants in Kashgaria. The inspection revealed facts of violation of the 1881 treaty between Russia and China by officials of the Chinese financial services.

According to Article 13 of the 1881 treaty from goods imported into China by Russian and Russian-subjects merchants and exported from there, a duty was levied at the rate common for foreign trade in the amount of 17% instead of 5% of the value of the goods [29: L. 164]. In pursuance of the request of the Kokand Exchange Committee addressed to the Ministry of Finance and the Council of Ministers, the previous procedure, i.e. payment of 5% duty on the value of goods was left in effect until August 11, 1911 [30: L.58], and then postponed “until further notice” [31: L.164 (about)].

This circumstance contributed to an increase in trade between Russia and Kashgar through the Fergana customs section. So, only in four months (May-August) 1909 through Irkeshtam the Kokand customs received goods worth 405,553 rubles. [32: L.164 (about)]. If in 1909 goods were brought through the Fergana customs section - by 1,428,746 rubles. [33: L.165], then in 1910 the amount received increased to 2,425,696 rubles. [34: L.25-26].

If in 1908 Russian goods were exported to Kashgar through the Fergana customs section - by 1,867,705 rubles. [35: L.59], and in 1909 - by 2,479,830 rubles, then in 1910 the amount of export increased to 3,155,514 rubles. [36: L.34]. If the total trade between Russia and Kashgar through the Fergana and Przhevalsk areas in 1910 amounted to about 6.4 million rubles. [37: L.58], then in 1911 it amounted to more than 8.2 million rubles. [38: L.49].

The increase in the number of trading merchants and the development of trade made it necessary to open transport companies in Kashgar. As a result, by 1914 two Russian companies “Eastern Transport and Insurance” and “Russian Transport and Insurance” opened their offices in East Turkestan [39: L.213-214].

The main items exported from Kashgar during this period were lamb and sheep skins, cotton and raw silk, various furs, gold bullion, woolen carpets, colored stones (jade), Chinese fabrics, etc. According to the Kokand Stock Exchange Committee, in 1913 lamb skins were brought - for 300 793 rubles, raw silk - for 309 600 rubles, raw cotton - for 837 337 rubles, sheep wool - for 162 861 rubles, woolen carpets - for 261 645 rubles. [40: L.133].

The first place in terms of the number of imports of items of Russian origin through all customs areas to Kashgar was occupied by cotton products, mainly from Moscow and Lodz firms; the second place was taken by the silkworm and the third - by metals and metal products.

It should be noted that not all items sent to Kashgar through the Fergana section were recorded at the Kokand customs. They could go through Osh and Andijan, and the duty was paid in Irkeshtam and Kashgar. But despite this, the Kokand customs retained the main role in the export of Russian goods to East Turkestan. For comparison, an example can be given: so, if in 1913 the total export of goods through the customs offices of Russia to Kashgar was equal to 4,567,420 rubles, then from this amount the goods for 3,004,284 rubles was released from the Kokand customs [41: L.71].

Table 1 shows the main goods sent through the Kokand customs for 1913-1914 to East Turkestan.

Table 1.

description of goods	the value of goods in rubles	
	1913 year	1914 year
Cotton products	2 760 651	2 434 740
Rafinated sugar	21 573	126 156
Sugar sand	90 340	121 756
Matches	76 362	12 700
Woolen products	21 771	14 580
Kerosene	16 109	16 359
Tobacco products	14 725	8 592
Cigarette sleeves	2 744	-
Total	3 004 284	2 734 883

According to these data, the export of cotton products through the Kokand customs to Kashgar for two years amounted to 5,195,391; while in 1913 from India to Kashgar was delivered to the English manufactory only 719,723 rupees (1 rupee equals 65 kopecks) [42: L.180-182].

4. Conclusion

Sources show that the attempts made by Russia in the 80s. XIX century. to the establishment and development of trade relations with East Turkestan through the Fergana Valley justified themselves. Russia began to export cheap raw materials for its factories and plants, such as: cotton, silk, livestock products and, at the same time, Chinese goods, began to import matches, a manufactory, kerosene, a sewing machine, enameled utensils, sugar, etc. into Kashgar at a cheap price. ...

One of the main roles in the development of trade between Russia and East

Turkestan was played by the city of Kokand, which was as it were, a transshipment point, as well as the establishment of the Kokand customs, which had a significant impact on the further growth of trade between Russia and East Turkestan.

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