TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN BUKHARA - RUSSIA IN THE SECOND HALF OF XVIII CENTURY - IN THE XIX CENTURY

Abstract: This article analyzes trade relations between Bukhara Emirate and Russian Empire in the second half of XVIII century - in the XIX century based on written sources and scientific literatures.

Key words: Russian Empire, Bukhara Emirate, trade relations, trade routes, products, market, merchant.

Language: English

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Introduction

The Russian Empire in their own interests, economic problems and in order to develop industry, began to study the situation in Central Asia and prepared for large-scale military-political attacks to the khanates. One of such actions was occured in 1858 year to the khanates of Khiva and Bukhara under the leadership of N.P. Ignatiev. Although Ignatiev’s actions did not achieve any results in Khiva, but they achieved some positive results in Bukhara. The Emir of Bukhara agreed with the requirements imposed by Ignatiev. The requirements for the Bukhara government were to reduce customs duties on Russian goods, introduce a temporary trade agency in Bukhara, release Russian prisoners in captivity, and give a separate caravansarai for Russian merchants [1, P. 227-228]. At the same time, the trade turnover between Bukhara and Russia increased intensively.

Materials and methods

The goods exported from Bukhara were handicrafts, agriculture and livestock. T.S.Burnashev, who was in Bukhara in 1794-1795 years, informed the rural and urban population of the emirate was engaged in crafts, which made their production in their own home. N. Grigoriev, who lived in Bukhara from 1734 to 1752, wrote in Bukhara that the factory for the manufacture of handmade products belonged only to a man named Rakhimbek, and that there were no factories or facilities elsewhere in the emirate [2, P. 14].

P.Ivanov, according to information provided by Russian tourists, highlighted that in Bukhara owners divided raw materials to people. For example, to one family cleaned cotton and the other weaved, third painted.

The owners did not care about buying the building for the factory in Bukhara, that major merchants did not want to spend too much [3, P. 125].

The production of knives made of hard steel was also developed in Bukhara, and the steel was imported from India. Good quality knives were sold from 1 to 3 tillo (gold coin). Knives made from Bukhara swords were sold for the price of 1 tillo (gold coin), and knives from high-quality Iranian swords were sold ten times expensive more than Bukhara swords [4, P.116]. Besides Bukhara, Karshi also played an important role in the production or manufacturing of high-quality knives. Karshi was the second place after Bukhara in sales [2, P. 22]. Vambery recognizes having 10 karavansarays in Karshi. High-quality knives made by Karshi craftsmen were also popular not only in Central Asia, but also in Persian and Arab countries [5].

Sources report that it was forbidden to import openly metal from Russia to Bukhara before the beginning of the 19th century. But exclusively at the invitation of the Bukhara government, rare metals were imported by the consent of the Russian government. For example, in 1731, with the permission of the Russian government, 3,000 pud (1pud=13 kg) copper were imported [2, P. 22].
At the beginning of the 19th century, it was allowed to freely import metal from the Russian Empire into Bukhara. Afterwards, Central Asia, including the Emirate of Bukhara, began to be imported freely from iron, copper, steel and cast iron. In the trade between the Russians and the khanate, iron imports occupied a leading position. In the period from 1840 to 1850, over 40,000 pud copper (1 pud = 13 kg), 400,000 pud iron, 75,000 and 25,000 pud steel were imported from Bukhara through the Orenburg customs in Russia [2, P. 22].

Metals imported from the Emirate of Bukhara were made of agricultural machinery and equipment of various types necessary for farming. P. Velichko, who studied the domestic markets of the Bukhara Emirate in 1806, recognized the Bukhara Emirate that goods made by craftsmen were independently removed and sold by the trader or craftsman, and there were no restrictions for them, and traders from other countries also engaged in free trade in the markets. These markets had special conditions for this period, and that traders from Bukhara had no obstacles to their living for many years [2, P. 35].

From January to May, the Emirate of Bukhara had a high level of trade, and many trade caravans from Iran, Afghanistan, India, Tibet and the neighboring khanates came to this time.

According to F. Yeremremov, in Bukhara had four karvansarais. In the morning the market was located in Chorsu, and in the afternoon the market continued on Registan Square, in the center of Bukhara. T.S. Burnashev reported that there were 9 two-story houses in Bukhara, and merchants paid for the arrival and departure of the caravan [6, P. 73].

According to the Orenburg border customs system’s data, in Bukhara serviced 10 karvansarays to foreign traders and sold them various goods on commercial sites, at the beginning of the 19th century, [2, P. 37].

When visiting Bukhara, A. Negri considers 14 karvansarays in Bukhara: Abdullahjon, Kushbegi, Hindu, Nugai, Khoja Juybara, Tashkent, Karshi, Maragul, Amir, Kulota, Fishina, Jongkulshira and two small karvansarays named Urganch. The largest of these is the Abdullajon Karvansaray, built in 1819 [4, P. 100].

During his visit to Bukhara, N.V. Ganykov noted that there are 24 stone and 14 wooden karvansarays in Bukhara [7, P. 88]. Meyendorf informed about the karvansaray construction plan of the Bukhara emirate was in the form of a rectangular structure, the karvansarays had a warehouse, on the second floor there was a warehouse, and half a day to store goods in the warehouse, and for the carnival they paid 16 rubles per month. He also notes that the karvansaray was a hotel for merchants, some merchants have their own warehouses, while others had placing in outside of karvansarays [4, P. 100]. Vambery wrote about 30 karvansaray in Bukhara, karvansarays served as a warehouse for their goods and a hostel for tourists [5, P. 182].

Bukhara Emirate in the summer months after the melting of snow in Afghanistan, a year of tense trade relations, 3–3,500 camel caravans arrived from Afghanistan to the Emirate of Bukhara. From Kabul to the Bukhara Emirate in one year, the cost of 170 thousand pounds or 1 million rubles Indian and English goods were imported. Various materials in goods include silk and lace, Kashmiri lumber, indigo and other goods. A large amount of silk fabrics, cotton fabrics, as well as goods from Russia, iron products, boxes and other products were imported from Bukhara to Afghanistan. Afghanistan did not need to produce Russian handmade goods. They were imported goods from England and India [8, P. 116].

Many trade caravans engaged in trade from Bukhara to India via Kabul. Fabrics brought from India demanded the Bukhara emirate. Bukhara merchants took the fabrics brought from India and brought them to Russian cities. From 1790 to 1800, 50,000 rubles of Indian fabrics were made of rubber, folded, curtains, bedspreads, silk fabrics and Indian walnuts. In Bukhara, there were many Indian traders who lived in separate provinces. According to the information, more than 300 Indian traders lived in only one place [2, P. 73].

It is noteworthy that Indian traders brought a large amount of indigo (paint) to the emirate of Bukhara. Her every pud sold in Bukhara from 44 rubles (10 chervans). In some cases, only the paint was brought on 2,000 camels. At the turn of the 19th century, Indian traders brought large quantities of cashmere and Persian shalisi to Bukhara. Bukhara merchants also exported these products to Russia and other European countries. For example, in 1828 the Bukhara merchant Margaboev from India sent 600 Kashmir shalisi to Orenburg. In Bukhara, a couple of Kashmir shalisi sold from 100 to 300 tillo and in Russia at a very expensive price - from 400 to 1000 rubles. This product has been purchased by palace officials and clerks. According to the information, in 1809 the governor-general of Orenburg G. Volkonsky personally ordered to purchase of 15 different colors of Kashmir shalisi from 400 rubles in the amount of 6 thousand soums [9, P. 141-142].

Bukhara’s cotton and silk fabrics were bought by poor families living in the Volga, Kazan and Siberian regions of Russia. In Bukhara, one arsh (about 22 m) of cheap fabric was sold at 1-2 kopecks (tiyin), these fabrics were sold in Russia for 5-6 kopecks [10, P. 57]. Merchants also greatly benefited from this, and they were also affordable for dwellers.

The merchants from the Bukhara and Khiva khanates were brought to Russia through the Russian Orenburg customs and imported a large amount of silver. Only in 1749 the Bukhara merchants exchanged 418 pud of silver for Russian products in Orenburg [2, P. 80].

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Philadelphia, USA
Jewelry made of precious metal and stone of Russian production the demand was the great in Central Asian khanate.

That is why a large amount of gold and silver was brought to Russia. In the period from 1748 to 1755 The Central Asian khanates supplied 50 pud of gold and 4,500 pud of silver. 1749–1750 yy to Orenburg was imported 10 pud of gold and 2,540 pud of silver [11, P. 1-10]. According to the information, in the second half of the 18th century and later in the Bukhara Emirate cotton fabrics of silk and silk fabrics were produced by artisans in large quantities. Among the Central Asian khanates, the Bukhara Emirate occupied a special place in the export of textiles to Russia. The fabric zandana, which was produced in Bukhara, was the first to be exported to Russia. In 1747-1750, 84210 arshin fabrics were exported to Russia, and in addition to 81950 arshin fabrics in different colors. Silk and silk fabrics produced in Bukhara were sold 6–7 times more than silk and silk fabrics produced in Iran in the Orenburg trade centers [2, P. 81].

The emirate of Bukhara occupied an important place in Central Asia due to its convenient geographical location. Foreign countries and neighbour khans traded through the Bukhara Emirate. It is reported that caravans came to the Bukhara Empire annually more than 15 thousand camels from different countries [8, P. 116]. Bukhara merchants traded with Russia not only through the Orenburg Customs, but also through Troitsk. Over 200 merchants from Bukhara visited the trade centers in Troitsk [12, P. 91].

In 1816, 6126 camels were loaded from Bukhara to Russia and 5008 camels from Russia. In 1818, 7584 camels a year were loaded into the Orenburg trade center from the Central Asian khanates, 5616 of them were from the Bukhara Emirate. In 1820, 4951 camels were loaded from Bukhara, it was reported that this year, 268 camels load was from the Khiva khanate.

According to the information, since 1821, the arrival of trade caravans from the Central Asian khanate has sharply declined in the Orenburg trade center. Only from Bukhara in 1783 a caravan goods, and from Khiva 5 camels delivered. One of the main reasons for this is the lack of security of the caravan routes due to the fact that pirates are attacking in the deserts. As a result, Russian merchants do not want to come to Central Asia. Considering another aspect of the problem, Russian traders visited Central Asia more often than ever before. During this period, trade control was in the hands of the merchants of the Central Asian khanates, where they imported and exported goods to Russia. Central Asian traders became millionaires, a large amount of capital gathered in their hands. For example, Galibay Kushakov from Bukhara, had more than a million. In addition, he had 2 commercial stores in Moscow. In addition, Galibay Kushakov regularly participated in exhibitions of Makarev, Irib and Koren with her trade goods, and also controlled Bukhara merchants’ shali and other textile products. Every year he sent iron, copper, tin and foreign coins in large quantities from Russia to Bukhara. During this period, the trade turnover between Russia and Bukhara reached 10 million rubles [2, P. 87].

In the period from 1818 to 1824, trade goods which cost total of 3384854 rubles was exported from Central Asia to Russia. In particular, in 1824 1228852 rubles from Bukhara and 14869 rubles from Khiva were exported. According to the Orenburg customs, the price of each pound of feruza precious stone 100 rubles and 4 silk fabrics were sold at 100 rubles.

In 1827, the load was taken out of Bukhara and Khiva with the cost of 12070.73 rubles, in the first place by cotton products were (4343324), cotton yarn (286945 rubles.), Kashmir shali (249930 rubles), a great deal of soft old products (107457 rubles.), cotton fiber (1600 rubles), wool products (776 rubles), dried fruits (9070 rubles), silk and semi-silk products (3174 rubles), feruza (3200 rubles), seeds of darmana (720 rubles .) and sarogin wheat (189 rubles) for export [2, P. 88].

The emirate of Bukhara occupied a leading position in trade relations between Russia and Central Asia. For example, in 1828 to the Orenburg trade center was visited by 3,578 camels from the Central Asian Khanate. The total cost of the goods was estimated at 4456,241 rubles. Of these, 2,480 cargoes were from Bukhara, 1003 cargoes from Khiva and 95 - from Tashkent. In Bukhara - Russian trade relations the Orenburg trade center played an important role. In 1829 year 213, in 1833 year 152, in 1835 year 341 and in 1837 year 388 of the Bukhara merchants visited Orenburg.

In the 40s-50s of the 19th century, the trade between Bukhara and Russia did not change, with the exception of tea and unprocessed silk and shy. During this period, high-quality cotton yarns, medium-quality cotton yarn, third class cotton yarns which exported to Russia, comprised 120, 100 and 80 rubles respectively and 100 pieces of well colored fabric was 120 rubles, 100 pieces of market fabrics were 100 rubles, 10 sheepskins, merlushki was 12 rubles, first class wheat – 2.4 rubles, second class – 2 rubles, third class – 1.8 rubles, three sack barley was sold for 4 rubles.

The value of trade relations between Central Asia and Russia in 1840 and 1850 years was 10 million pounds sterling. There was 788,785 pounds share to Bukhara, 199830 to Khiva and 39936 to Kokand [13, P. 337-341].

The total value of goods imported and exported from the Bukhara Emirate to Russia in 1850-1852 years amounted to 4 million rubles [2, P. 100].

**Conclusion**

Bukhara Emirate occupied a leading position in trade relations between Russia and other countries.

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Above mentioned statistics showed that Russian Empire paid a great attention to study and use economical relations of Central Asian khanates.

References: