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## FOREIGN TRADE RELATIONS OF THE BUKHARA EMIRATE IN THE LATE XIX - EARLY XX CENTURIES

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**ABSTRACT:** By the end of the 19th century, the Russian government had struggled to squeeze out trade goods from countries such as Britain, India, Iran, and Afghanistan to Bukhara in order to turn Central Asia into its monopolistic market.

As a result, by 1881, the Russian government banned the import to Bukhara of products other than Indian tea and kraska imported from abroad. Both the bag and turban fabrics, which are essential for locals and Muslims, were not allowed to be imported in Russia, but traders were forced to pay large duties to import these products. In Bukhara, Russian entrepreneurs have tried to produce pocket products that are in high demand in Central Asia in general. The kisey products they originally produced were not only immature in terms of quality that they could not compete with the products brought by the British, but also the price was much more expensive.

**KEYWORDS:** Russian entrepreneurs, Central Asia, India, Iran, and Afghanistan, Karakol, wool, (sherst), cattle, goat skins, carpets, cotton.

### INTRODUCTION

It was not until the 1890s that Russian entrepreneurs began to partially compete with the British[1]. As a result of the Russian government's policy in Central Asia, the volume of trade goods imported from abroad has decreased. Restrictions on imported goods have also affected Bukhara. According to the Russian Political Agency N.V. Charykov, since 1887, "Bukhara has become a full-fledged Russian market. It is said that almost no trade goods have been imported from abroad"[2].

Despite the Russian government's crackdown on foreign trade in the Emirate of Bukhara, traders from India, Iran, and Afghanistan continued to bring goods into the Bukhara market in various ways, including the influx of British clergy.

The Russian government has intensified its efforts to keep the emirate economically dependent, increase its sphere of influence in Bukhara, and open Russian farms and trading houses in Bukhara to meet its economic needs.

The opening of Russian farms and trading houses in Bukhara has accelerated the flow of goods into the Emirate of Bukhara. One of the first companies to open in Bukhara is the Yaroslavl Friendship Manufacturing Company. The farm was initially engaged in purchasing cotton from Bukhara. In 1884 alone he bought 100,000 pounds of local cotton from Bukhara alone, and in 1889 he bought 240,000 pounds of cotton[3].

## THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

By 1884, 59 Russian companies and trading houses were operating in Tashkent, Kokand, Bukhara, Chorjoi, Merv, Ashgabat and other cities, investing their capital in Central Asian markets[4]. The trade turnover of friendly societies and farms has gradually increased. By 1886, 2 million had been sent to Central Asia by friendly societies and trading firms. rubles worth of goods and the same amount of raw materials.

In 1887, 900 pounds of cotton, 20,000 pounds of dried fruits, 750,000 pounds of astrakhan leather, 6,000 pounds of silk and silk products, 20,000 pounds of yarn, 100,000 pounds of cloth, 10,000 pounds of gowns, and 45,000 pounds of various fabrics were exported from the Emirate of Bukhara. rubles carpet was removed. 22,000 pounds of manufactured goods, 237,000 pounds of iron and metal products, 100,000 pounds of sugar and caramel products, 26,000 pounds of porcelain, 7,000 pounds of black leather and other goods were brought to Bukhara from Russia[5].

In Russia, the demand of the textile industry for cotton raw materials has increased. As a result, cotton fields in the Emirate of Bukhara expanded. Allocation of irrigated land in agriculture for cotton cultivation, the land used for growing grain crops in the emirate has sharply decreased. As a result, the demand for bread and rice in the emirate increased, causing shortages among the population. In 1890, 2,700,000 pounds of bread and 600,000 pounds of grain were imported from Russia to meet the needs of the population of the Emirate of Bukhara for bread and rice. In this way, the demand of the population of Bukhara for bread and rice was met. According to the data, between 1891 and 1893, 14 million people moved from Bukhara to Russia and other foreign countries. rubles worth of goods worth 15 mln. rubles worth of products were imported[6].

The construction of the Trans-Caspian railway has laid the foundation for a significant increase in trade between Bukhara and Russia. Caravans travel to Russia once or twice a year for 3 rubles per pound. It should also be noted that the caravan from Bukhara traveled to Nizhny Novgorod or Moscow for 20-40 days. By rail, 70 pounds for each pound of cargo. The entrance fee was charged, which allowed to deliver the products cheaply and quickly, and to transport large volumes of goods by rail. By 1891, after the Bukhara Emirate was connected by rail, the inflow of Russian products to Bukhara tripled. As a result, the cities of the emirate specialized in separate

trade goods. For example, the city of Bukhara was one of the cities that played an important role in the sale of karakul leather, tea and Russian goods, the sale of Guzar livestock and the connection of eastern Bukhara with western Bukhara.

Trade goods imported from Russia were brought to Bukhara and distributed to the interior cities of the emirate and neighboring countries, primarily to Afghanistan (after 1895). In the 1980s, N.V. Cherkov wrote that “4,000 caravans of trade goods were imported from Russia to Bukhara annually, 1/3 of which was distributed to neighboring countries”[7].

The role of Afghanistan in the trade relations of the Emirate of Bukhara with neighboring countries is considered important. Karakul, wool, (sheep), cattle, goat skins, carpets, cotton, raisins, almonds, pistachios, kashk and other products were exported from Bukhara to Afghanistan. Anglo-Indian cattle were brought to Bukhara from Afghanistan: green tea, indigo, kishk and others[7]. The Bukhara bird's report to the Emir states that every year 6,000 camels from Afghanistan bring trade goods to Bukhara[4].

The Emirate of Bukhara also actively traded with India. Tea, indigo, English manufactory, kishk, mitkal shali ambarsari, and cashmere, Indian piece and other products were imported from India. In the 60s and 80s of the 19th century, 112,000 pounds of green tea, 23,000 pounds of indigo and 20,000 pounds of kishk were brought to Bukhara [8]. In 1886, 8,000 camels were reported to have brought various trade goods from India to Bukhara. The cost of goods imported from India amounted to 5475 thousand rubles, and the cost of goods exported from Bukhara to India amounted to 427 thousand rubles[9].

Until 1895, 4-5 million people traveled from India to Bukhara every year. rubles worth of goods were imported [9]. After the incorporation of the Emirate of Bukhara into the Russian customs system, the import of goods from India, Afghanistan and other foreign countries has sharply decreased. Bukhara lost its economic and political freedom. He was then deprived of the right to free trade.

By the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, the demand for cotton in the trade of the Bukhara Emirate increased. This need led to the rise of cotton trade in Bukhara, which resulted in the creation of special markets for the sale of cotton. There are more than 70 cotton markets in the Emirate of Bukhara, which operate on weekdays. Of the markets, 25 were large markets that operated on a daily basis and cotton could be purchased from these markets. Later, the number of large markets selling cotton increased to 33[10].

Karakul leather played an important role in the post-cotton trade in the UAE. In the early twentieth century, 1,500,000 pieces or 30,000 pounds of astrakhan leather were sold, and by 1909, leather exports had reached 1,800,000[11]. By 1912, it had grown to 2 million. The average price of Karakul leather is 9.5 rubles, with a total turnover of 19 million rubles[4].

Bukhara astrakhan skins are also exported to European countries. Employees of the Paris Trading House (Reillon Treres) such as Budlo, Blo, Zabeya came to Karshi and bought Bukhara

karakul skins from the first hand. Due to the high cost of Karakul leather from Bukhara to Moscow and Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, entrepreneurs from the Paris Chamber of Commerce came to the Emirate of Bukhara to buy leather, which was convenient and much cheaper for them. In Bukhara, they bought 10 pieces of karakul skin for 5 rubles, which is 10% cheaper than in Moscow [12]. They made up to 3% profit when buying from Moscow or Novgorod. That is why European entrepreneurs tried to buy the product first hand, in Bukhara, and make more profit.

The sale of sheep and camel wool (sherst) is also important in Bukhara's foreign trade relations. Despite the fact that the quality of Bukhara wool is slightly lower, sales in foreign markets were more active. In 1898, 158,000 pounds were produced, and in 1915, 271,300 pounds of wool products were exported[13].

Along with astrakhan leather, European entrepreneurs also bought wool wool from Bukhara. According to reports, Reichardt Bro, a British firm, bought wool from the Emirate of Bukhara for 12 years. The company buys 80,000 to 90,000 pounds of wool a year, and Ernest Parkinson[13], a British citizen, also buys sheep wool from Bukhara markets. Russian and British entrepreneurs cleaned the purchased wool in Bukhara, Charjou, Karshi and other cities and then sent it to the places.

## CONCLUSION

The Emirate of Bukhara also benefited greatly from the carpet trade. Bukhara carpets are hand-woven and are in great demand in Russia due to their high quality. In the early twentieth century, carpets were sold for 2.5 thousand pounds or 250 thousand rubles[14]. Bukhara carpets were in great demand not only in neighboring countries, but also in European countries. I.A. Remez notes that by the beginning of the 20th century, several German companies had purchased about 100 quality carpets from the Emirate of Bukhara[14].

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