



## GENERAL SITUATION OF HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY IN TURKESTAN

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### Annotation

This article examines the general situation of history and historiography in Turkestan on the eve of the invasion of Tsarist Russia. In the first half of the 19th century, the science of archeology in Turkestan developed mainly without archaeological research and excavations. The emergence and development of archeology in the country is directly related to the research of Western scientists.

**Keywords:** Feudal class, archaeological research and excavations, chronological consistency, historiography.

According to historical data, historiography began in Central Asia very early. According to the writings of Beruni, a famous scientist from Khorezm, the Arab conquerors not only lost the local scholars in Movarounnahr, but also destroyed and burned the works of the local language and local script. For this reason, works written in the earliest times have not been preserved. Not all historical works written during the last thousand years have reached our time. It has been more than a thousand years since Muhammad Narshahi's "History of Bukhara" and Balami's "Translation of Tabari's History" were written. In this way, historiography continued in a traditional manner in Movarounnahr during different dynasties, then during the reign of Amir Temur and the Timurids, and then during the time of the Khans.

In the middle of the 19th century, one of the people who created a work on the history of the Kokan Khanate was Avaz Muhammad Attar Khoqandi, and in 1872, he created a two-volume work "Tarihi jahonnamoyi" in the Persian-Tajik language. The work consists of two books written on the basis of historical sources and a geographical appendix. In the first part of the work, the history of the rulers from the beginning of man to the 16th century is given. In the second part of the work, the politics of the reign of Khan Olim Khan (1798-1810), Umar Khan (1810-1822), Madali Khan and Khudoyar Khan are given in full. In the work, the policy of the Bukhara emir towards the Chinese-Kipchaks and Karakalpak peoples, the relations between the Kokand Khanate and the Bukhara Emirate, the occupation of the lands of Samarkand and Kattakorgan by Russian soldiers, the construction of buildings and buildings, the dates of some events, etc. are given. At the same time, the work also talks about important events such as the uprising led by Khoja Qalandar in 1842 in Kokand, the





movement against the governor of Tashkent in 1847. These arguments presented in the work are important for the study of history. However, such works were written in the spirit of the feudal class ideology of that time, and it is required to look at it with a critical eye.

In the history of the Kokan Khanate, Mulla Niyaz Muhammad's work "History of Shahruhi" is also noteworthy. This work of the author provides important information about the history of the Kokan Khanate up to the 70s of the 18th and 19th centuries. This information is very valuable for researchers of this period.

From the second half of the 19th century, the invasion campaigns of the Russian Empire into Turkestan began. In June 1865, after fierce resistance, the townspeople surrendered. Until 1917, Tashkent served as the administrative center of the Turkestan General Governorate. During this period, the city took its own path of development. The role of written sources in illuminating the socio-economic and political history of Tashkent in 1865-1917 is incomparable, and it is appropriate to classify these sources by dividing them into categories.

Among the historical sources written in the Khiva Khanate in the first half of the 19th century, the most important are the works of Munis and Ogahi. Munis's (1778-1829) father, Awazbiy Mirab, was in the palace service both before Khiva Khan Eltuzar and during his reign (1804-1806). During the reign of Eltuzar Khan, Munis entered the palace service and wrote his famous historical work "Firdavs ul-Iqbal" on the order of the khan. Eltuzar Khan also praises Shermuhammad Munis for making this work superior to Firdaws's Shahnama. Munis's work is written in Uzbek. He uses Abulghazi's works to illuminate the history of the Khiva khanate in the 16th-18th centuries. Munis died suddenly while completing the first book of this work and writing the second. Thus, he cannot complete the translation of the manuscript or his work. Mohammad Reza Ogahi (1809 - 1864) continues the work on the commission of Khan of Khiva Olloquli (1825 - 1842) and writes the events up to 1827.

Although Munis and Ogahiyas are palace historians, their works are somewhat higher than Bukhara and Kokan palace historians of that period in terms of their wealth of evidence, chronological consistency, and full description of the political events reflected in them. Khiva palace historiography, and in particular, Munis and Ogahi's works, V.V.Bartold emphasized this feature in his work "The history of the cultural life of Turkestan": He wrote that "the books of Munis and Ogahi, despite their shortcomings as literary and historical works, in terms of the completeness of the description and the number of evidential data, leave behind the finished works on the history of the Bukhara and Kokan khanates that have reached us.





Khorezm has a genealogical historiography that has lasted for many centuries. Abulghazi Bahadirkhan, Munis, Ogahiy are at the head of this spring. The value of the sacred history books left by them is very high. V.V. Bartold, an intelligent scholar of the history of Central Asia, gives a high evaluation to these works and emphasizes that such a perfect history has not been written before them. This tradition also shows the level of civilization and enlightenment of the country, which highly values science. The people of Khorezm and Movarounnahr who grew up in this spirit, especially the enlightened families, kept their genealogical chronicles of seven generations, the perfect people who realized the continuity of generations, bequeathed to one of the next generations or one of their worthy students to continue it, because of the need to satisfy their spiritual and scientific thirst from their roots.

In fact, Bayani was a true historian of his time, and he was able to rise to the level of a great historian who was able to record the ruthless conquest and plundering of the Khiva Khanate by Tsarist Russia in simple vernacular language.

Bayani's works sound like a call to preserve the gained independence for future generations, hatred against invaders and wars of conquest.

The second half of the 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th century, Mirza Salimbek's scientific-historical and local history activities are also noteworthy. He was born in 1850 in Bukhara. He received a good education in the madrasa. Mirza Salimbek served under the emir in 1880-1883. In 1884-1885, he was the representative of the Emirate of Bukhara to the Governor General of Turkestan. Despite his service, he produced important and interesting treatises in the field of history.

Abu Tahirkhoja (died in 1874), a great local history historian in the 19th century, is one of the scientists who made a great contribution to the development of historiography. One of his famous works is "Samaria", which contains valuable information about the creation and naming of the city of Samarkand, its geographical location, as well as its weather, culture, and economic life.

The work "History of Turkestan" written by Mulla Olim Mahmud Khoji, who is often known as a historian in the second half of the 19th century, is a valuable source for studying our past. The work is distinguished by the richness of its sources.

The emergence of the science of archeology in the territory of Uzbekistan, as well as in the entire region of Central Asia, is directly related to the occupation of the territories of Central Asia by the Russian Empire. Because, before the arrival of the Russians, archaeological excavations were not carried out on the territory of Uzbekistan, including the whole of Central Asia, and there was no concept of "archaeological" among the people. Therefore, it is right to connect the arrival of the





science of archeology to the territory of Uzbekistan directly with Russia, with the arrival of Russian scientists.

The situation in Russia at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century was in the very early stages of conducting archaeological research. At this time, archaeologists did not yet have the right to call themselves historians. Because almost all the excavations carried out by the necessity of that time were done only to find various objects. Since there are more archeological objects in tombs - mounds, the main excavations are carried out in those places. Since the purpose of these excavations was only to find finds, they were taken only by the method of trenching. So, in this case, archeology would not work for history.

During this period, mainly as a result of search for wealth, tombs and mounds were randomly opened by people looking for gold, and its riches were looted without mercy. They have not even opened it systematically, let alone research it scientifically. Nevertheless, written historiography was well developed in the territory of Turkestan during this period. This can be seen in the example of several works below. Long before the conquest of Central Asia by Tsarism, Russian scientists had done a number of works on the study of this country. However, in the first half of the 19th century, the study of the country, that is, local historiography, corresponded to the accuracy of socio-political, economic and cultural life, and served the interests of the feudal classes. The science of history was used to ideologically justify the interests of the feudal class, the ownership of the throne and the "righteousness" of the Khans and their dynasty. Historians of the palace focused their attention on describing the political realities, the activities of the khans and their victories over their opponents, and the traditions in the palace. Because the time itself was like that. As a result, the subject of the historiography of this period was somewhat separated from the subject of world history.

In general, although several dozen valuable historical works were created until the second half of the 19th century, archeological researches based on a certain rule were not conducted in the Turkestan region. Archeological sources have been partially used to illuminate history. In this case, writings written in sources about antiques, which are generally known to everyone, as well as folk tales and legends, are included in historical works. However, a certain area has not been studied on the basis of separate archaeological excavations.

Although the science of archeology did not develop in Turkestan during this period, many resources and coins were collected by those interested in historical objects among the local population. At the same time, the works written by many historians were written down by people who lived in that period. These historians did not deal





much with antiquities, but mainly gave a historical account of the events that happened in their time, or the events that happened in the not too distant past. The events described in their works mostly do not cover very long history. There could not be a single word about archaeology. All historians are basically limited to narrative like their predecessors. There was no need for archaeological research to add new information. This was directly related to the political and religious situation in the three khanates.

In conclusion, the historical works created by local historians in the first half of the 19th century can be used from a critical point of view by looking at the country's economy and economic relations. These works are therefore very useful in studying the history of the country until 1917. Because their authors lived in that period, saw the happening events and events with their own eyes, and compared them with the events of the previous period.

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