



## PROCEDURES FOR STORING OFFICIAL INFORMATION IN THE COURT OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF TURKESTAN

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### Abstract

The article is devoted to the issues of source studies of the history of Turkestan in the second half of the 19th - early 20th centuries. The main provisions of source studies, classification of materials of the chancery of the Turkestan Governor-General are considered. The main characteristics of the I-1 fund, the National Archive of Uzbekistan, are given.

**Keywords:** Turkestan, governorship, court, official information, source studies.

### INTRODUCTION

Independent Uzbekistan has ushered in a new era in the development of our people. Wide opportunities have been created for the revival of our forgotten national values, our history. Our country's historians are also achieving significant results, effectively using the opportunities of independence. Our President I.A. Karimov, at a meeting with prominent historians in 1998, said about the tasks in the field of history: "The goal is that new directions should emerge in science that will identify our historical roots. That will enhance our national pride". [1] As a result, new directions began to emerge in the scientific research of historians that acquired new meaning. In this regard, the words of the President of our Republic I.A. Karimov, "Thanks to the efforts of Uzbek scientists, many very important pages of our history have been rediscovered, first of all, the Timurid era, the history of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries" can be considered a worthy assessment of the achievements of our scientists in studying the history of our country. [2]

### MAIN PART

One of the directions that has gained new significance in historical research is the study of the history of the administrative system established by Tsarism in Turkestan in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Historical source studies are an important area in the study of this area. One of the sources that contains the main information is the documents of the Turkestan Governor-General's Office





(Chancellery). These documents are currently stored in the “I-1” funds of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It contains a total of 31,655 volumes of documents registered in the Chancellery of the Turkestan Governor-General between 1867 and 1918. Already in the early years of the conquest of Turkestan, projects were drawn up on the administration of the country, in which one can find information about the activities of the court (chancellery). Before the establishment of the Turkestan Governor-General, in 1866, the project on the administration of the Turkestan region provided information about the activities of the court (chancellery) under the military governor. [3]

According to it, the court carried out administrative work on the management of the local population in the regional “military people's administration” and its activities were directly managed by the military governor of the region. In the initial period, the court consisted of 5 departments. They are:

- a) Personnel of the military-people's administration
- b) Economy
- c) Taxes and levies
- d) Statistics
- e) Judicial affairs.

The court also managed education and school affairs among the local population, the right to occupy land belonging to the local population, the expenditure of funds for the management of the indigenous population, the issuance of permits to those engaged in private industrial entrepreneurship and their control, the correspondence of the military governor with the court, other regions, and responsible persons was entrusted with the tasks of keeping in a special secret section. The above are tasks related to the activities of the court, and the project also indicates the duties of the head of the special court, according to which the head of the court had the same rights as the head of the regional military headquarters.

The head of the court was given the right to organize inspections in the territories concerned and provide detailed information about this to the regional military governor, and in the management of the local population, he was even given the right to demand the exact execution of work from responsible persons. In most cases, it is recommended that the head of the court be appointed from the military. The above requirements and instructions are information regarding the organization of the court (chancellery) activities. When the Turkestan Governorate was established on July 11, 1876, the court initially consisted of four departments. The fourth of them, the judicial affairs department, ceased to exist a few years later.



Some departments were established in the court depending on the need and they were also closed when there was no need. They were closed, including the departments of mining, military-expedition chancellery, and refugee desk. The first department managed the administrative-staff unit and inspectorate procedures, and the organization of its work was mainly distributed among 4 desks. 3 of them were mainly engaged in personnel, and the fourth desk managed judicial affairs and the affairs of foreigners. The second department carried out activities related to land affairs and obligations, and the work within it was carried out through 5 desks, in general, this department can also be called the financial-economic department. The work of the third department related to land-tax and urban management was organized through 3 desks, and this department also developed laws on governance in the country. The Turkestan Governor-General's office also included a public library, a museum, the newspaper "Turkestanskije vedomosti" and a printing house that operated in 1872-1881.

In order to provide a broader coverage of the activities of the departments, it is necessary to provide information about the tasks assigned to their authority. The documents related to the first department initially contain orders and reports of the Governors-General of Turkestan and military governors of the region, regulatory documents related to the preparation of these reports, Regulations related to the administration of the country, information on the establishment of special commissions for the preparation of these Regulations, and their liquidation after the expiration of their powers. [4]

Also, the documents belonging to this section contain correspondence on the issue of including the Yetisuv and Transcaspian regions in the Turkestan General Governorate, and the establishment of a special chancellery during the military campaigns against Bukhara in 1868 and Khiva in 1873, and their documents. The documents of the section contain information on diplomacy, in particular, information on requests for assistance from the Governor-General by representatives of the Jamshidi clan due to the internal situation in Afghanistan, and information on the assistance provided to them. [5]

Information on the return of those exiled from Fergana to Sakhalin Island to their homeland after the Japanese occupation. Information on the impact of the revolutionary situation in Russia on Turkestan at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. For scientific researchers, there is information about labor obligations from Turkestan to the front and behind the front during the outbreak of World War I, which directly helps in studying the history of the popular uprisings that began in 1916 against



conscription. Along with these sources, information is also provided about the situation in Turkestan during the First World War.

The reports of the Russian scientist Seversov N.A., who studied the Fergana Valley, are also included in the documents of this section. The section contains correspondence about the visits of the Governor-General of Turkestan and representatives of various ministries to the regions, as well as information about local population management and activities carried out on the basis of correspondence. For those interested in the history of Islam in the country, in particular, information is also stored on organizing the pilgrimage of Muslims, issuing them passports to travel abroad, and conducting medical examinations of participants of the pilgrimage returning from Mecca. The documents of the first department are diverse and cover various areas, it should be noted that in the early period, the reports of the regional military governors were received in the court at table number 1. [6]

Later, since the information in the reports was needed by all departments, copies of them could be found in all of them. The documents of the second section are of various types and can be considered to be related to the economic sphere. In particular, they provide information on local and land administration, tax organization, construction work to be carried out in the region, labor force, construction materials. Also, necessary information is provided on road construction in the region, especially work in the Pamirs, Aloy and Kashgar, the construction of the road to Gulcha and Irkeshtom, through the Taldyk pass, and the construction of trade and caravan routes from Namangan to Avliyoata through the Chatkal pass. The department's documents include issues directly related to the economic life of the country, information on the history of irrigation work in agriculture, namely the need to carry out irrigation work in the country, the release of water to Mirzachul, the Katta-Kurgan Canal and related measures (this canal played an important role in the distribution of the water of the lower Zarafshan River with the Bukhara Emirate). [7]

The department also collects information on the history of the postal service in Turkestan, and provides information on the organization of post offices at the railway stations built there. Information on the development of education in the country after the establishment of tsarist rule includes information on the construction and renovation of gymnasiums in the regions, in particular, the financing of the translators' school in Kuldzh, vocational schools, and a meteorological station. Information is provided on the establishment of secondary educational institutions in the country – an agricultural and hydraulic engineering school, a ceramics school, an entomological station, and stations for combating tropical diseases. Information on the costs of organizing medical services in the regions, preventing epidemiological





diseases, and establishing medical aid points in rural areas is also reflected in this section. In Turkestan, there is also information on the costs associated with the construction of administrative and civil houses under the Tsarism regime, as well as churches for believers of the Christian religion.

In agriculture, which is considered an important sector in the country's economy, the main place was occupied by sectors such as cotton and grain growing. One of the factors negatively affecting agricultural productivity is the issue of "locusts", the harmful effects of which were noticeable in some cases. This section also contains information on measures to combat the locusts, in particular, measures taken to bring locusts to the French capital, Paris. Most of the documents related to the second section above contained a lot of information in the reports on the areas mentioned in the "dokladnaya zapiska".

The third section in the cabinet contains the most information in its structure. Initially, it contained information on the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, orders, reports on the organization of the activities of the regional military governorship within the General Governorate. The documents also contain reports and minutes of meetings of commissions on the organization of regions and districts. They include the draft of the Count Ignatyev commission on determining and transferring the borders of the region, district, and volost. On this topic, F.K.Girs reports on the "audit" of the activities of administrative departments in the country are also cited. During the initial establishment of the Turkestan Governorate, the sources on the determination of regions and their borders, the establishment of the Zarafshan district and the Amu Darya department, the establishment of border posts of the Governorate-General, and in particular the determination of borders with the Bukhara Emirate are also available in this section as information.

Information on the application of the City Charter in Turkestan, including correspondence carried out during the elections to the Russian State Duma, are also stored in the documents of this section. One of the measures taken in Central Asia is the documents related to the preparation of the draft law on endowment farms of March 30, 1912, which contains the reference book of the orientalist V.P.Nalivkin "On the status of the endowment business in the Turkestan region before and after its conquest." (1900), which the scientist later published. Information was collected on the construction of irrigation facilities in the country, the Turkestan Water Management Department, the development of water use laws, the work to be carried out to irrigate the newly reclaimed lands from the Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers, the distribution of the Murghab River water, the construction of a dam to distribute water



to the Zarafshan River and the Kara River, and the work carried out to provide water to the Mirzachul reservoir.

The project contracts with engineer M.A.Kovalevsky on the water supply of the Fergana region and the Bukhara emirate on the distribution of water from the Zarafshan River and the “Sherobod” irrigation concession in the Bukhara emirate. Information on the water supply of special cities has been collected. The reports of the tsarist authorities on the placement of American cotton seeds in Turkestan for the needs of textile enterprises in the center of the empire, and even on the five-year exemption from taxes for those who planted this type of cotton in the country, and on the establishment of model cotton plantations in Tashkent and Samarkand in 1885 and the work they performed, also belong to this section. The development of cocoon farming in Turkestan is a separate sector, and there is historical information about the development of this industry, the opening of cocoon farming schools, and information about the trip of the head of the Tashkent cocoon farming station, V.F.Oshanin, abroad to study the development of cocoon farming.

Information on the economic and financial affairs of the Transcaspian and Yetisuv regions is provided, as well as interesting information about the locations of the Dungans and Tarak peoples in the Ili Valley. Reports of such Russian scientists as D.K.Myshenkov, G.D.Romanovsky, I.V.Mushketov, D.L.Ivanov, Rengarten, A.P.Fedchenko, N.A.Seversov, A.E.Regel, V.V.Bartold, who made a worthy contribution to the study of the nature of the country, have also been included in this section. The trade and diplomatic relations of the Turkestan General Governorate with neighboring China, Afghanistan, and Iran, as well as border relations, are also reflected in the documents of the department. The third section contains a lot of information compared to the remaining sections.

## CONCLUSION

In order to scientifically analyze the documents of the Turkestan General Governorate's court (chancellory), it is first necessary to carry out their classification according to their content. For this, it is necessary to separate the documents belonging to the court departments according to their directions, because not all the information indicates which department they belong to. For example, the reports of the regional military governors contain information belonging to all departments. One of the important tasks of scientific research, especially in the field of historical source studies, is to classify and analyze historical sources by category.



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