



THE STRUCTURE AND STATE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUKHARA EMIRATE IN THE LATE XIX EARLY XX CENTURIES

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Abstract:

The article highlights the structure and governance of Bukhara Emir Sayyid Alimkhan in the late XIX and early XX centuries.

Keywords: emir, bek, kazikalyan (judge), mosque, square, multinational, pud, commodity, kazikalyan (judge), dehkan, official, rais (chairman), territory, structure, landowners.

Introduction

In the second half of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century Bukhara Khanate consisted of 10 provinces and 25 bekstvos consisting of estates, each of which combined dozens and some hundreds of landed estates, villages. According to the document compiled by the Kushbegi department for the Russian Imperial political agency, the territory of the Emirate consisted of 125 estates, land allotments, 4946 mosques and more than 10000 settlements. The area of the Emirate was 225000 square kilometers.

According to the sources, Bukhara was agrarian country, the main occupation of which was agriculture and cattle breeding, the area of land suitable for cultivation was 2700000 dessiatinas.

As a result of defeat of Bukhara Emirate in the war with Russia in 1866-1868 in the history of the country began a new period - the semi-colonial period.

According to the Russian-Bukhara Agreement of 1873, as a result of Russian citizens acquiring the right to purchase real estate in the emirate and other economic activities, Russia's economic dominance in Bukhara was strengthened.

In accordance with Article 16 of the Treaty of Friendship of September 28, 1873, the Russian Imperial Political Agency, established in 1885, was the center that carried out the colonial policy of the Empire in Bukhara. Since January 1, 1886 this center was headed by the Political Agent, which was established by a decree of Emperor Alexander III. He was appointed directly by the center, St. Petersburg, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Political Agent was subordinate in service to the Governor-





General of Turkestan, but in essence he acted within the authority of the Ministry of War and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The political agency functioned as a center for secret control and oversight of the Bukhara Emir and his cronies. As a result, the Emir found himself in such a dependent position that the Governor-General of Turkestan compared him to the chief of a district subordinate to the Russians.

Bukhara's joining to the Russian customs system since January 1, 1895 was one of the manifestations of the same policy. The monetary reform carried out by the empire in Bukhara was aimed at the same goal. The loss of the emir's independence in the customs sphere, as well as the subordination of the tanga coin to the Russian ruble and kopek, was an important step in transforming Bukhara into a raw materials appendage, a market for Russia. This policy was applied throughout the Central Asian region.

Bukhara began to function as a source of raw materials for Russian industry. For example, if in 1850-1860 50 thousand poods of cotton was grown for export, in the early twentieth century it has reached 1.2 million, and in 1916 - 2 million poods.

The production of Karakul leather, wool and other agricultural goods also increased from year to year. Export-import operations in Bukhara Emirate in the financial aspect were provided by seven private banks. The banks started to unite Bukhara businessmen around them.

The development of commodity-money relations accelerated the formation of national bourgeoisie, and at the same time to a certain extent influenced further development of usury, which had existed for centuries.

The usurers were interested in granting loans at high interest rates. This led to even greater impoverishment and ruin of the peasants and artisans. Usury was the main obstacle to the development of the economy and dominated until the overthrow of the emirate.

The population of Bukhara was multinational. Uzbeks, Tajiks, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Turkmens, Karakalpaks, Jews, Persians, and Arabs lived here.

Most of the population in the emirate, that is, 1.5 million people, were Uzbeks. By the beginning of the nineteenth century the population of the emirate was 2 million, in the fifties of that century more than 2.5 million. In the city of Bukhara, there were approximately more than 60,000 people.

The main part of the population were dekhkans, cattle breeders and urban craftsmen. Even after the Bukhara Emirate came under Russian rule, its political system remained the same. Emir S. Alimkhan, as head of state, had an absolutely unlimited sphere of power. It is also known that he was the largest merchant in the country and



actively participated in the international trade market. Emir's investments in the state bank of Russia amounted to 27 million rubles, and in private banks - 7 million rubles. He ranked third in the world market on the turnover of trade in caramel. Emir had the largest real estate holdings in Russia. At the same time Emir was among the high officials of St. Petersburg as the Adjutant General of the Emperor of Russia.

Said Abdul Ahadhan gained great prestige in the Imperial Palace. As a general of cavalry - the military rank of Adjutant General Said Abdul Ahadkhan (the highest general's rank in the Russian army), awarded the highest award of the Empire - the Order of St. Andrew, he occupied a higher status than his immediate superior - the Governor-General of Turkestan. The recognition that Abdul Akhadhan, who spoke fluent Russian, could find his way to the heart of royal officials with emir's tributes, and with his activities achieved the cessation of actions to turn Bukhara into a fully Russian province, half-retained the independence of the country, is the restoration of historical justice. Among Bukhara emirs he stood out for his knowledge and ability to objectively assess the situation. Abdul Ahadkhan wrote poems under the pseudonym Ojiz (blind, helpless). Obviously, the pseudonym itself is a hint, indicating that the emir was helpless before reality. The inner regrets of his poems are also indicative of this. The role of the clergymen in the emirate stood out. On the one hand, they tried to strengthen the power of the emir; on the other hand, they sought to influence all political and economic as well as spiritual life in the country.

In addition to scholars, the landowning class also played an important role in the state administration. There was a traditional hierarchy of power in the administrative apparatus, according to which such official positions as bakhodir, chief of chancellery, zhebachi, chief of guards, stableman, toksabo (one of officials in feudal khanates of Central Asia), shikorbashi, bey - head of tribe, dodkhokh - one of the highest officials in Bukhara khanate were introduced. The main function of this function was to receive offerings to the emir and give answers to petitioners, Parvanachi - one of the highest officials in Bukhara Khanate in charge of distribution of Khan's labels and administration of affairs of Arabs living in the Khanate, Devanbegi - person in charge of finances in the palace of emir, Kushbegi - title of first minister at the Khan's court, Otalik. The bey, who had risen through the ranks, was in the category of high-ranking officials, and they usually received the post of bek (governor of the region) or served in the Bukhara Ark.

Based on the existing sources, it is possible to describe the structure of the Asian system of government in Bukhara emirate as follows. The head of state power was Emir, he always had advisers in number of 100 people. The state was ruled by kushbegi, who owned an apparatus consisting of 125 officials.



Kushbegi had the following departments: tupchiboshi (consisting of 50 officials), lashkarboshi (consisting of 70 officials), poyon-zakotchi (consisting of 100 officials), kasi kalon - supreme court (consisting of 150 officials), chairman (apparatus consisting of 100 officials with priestly rank).

Historical literature contains a number of different opinions about the position of kushbegi, who occupied an important place in Bukhara state after the emir. For example, P. Shubinsky equated kushbegi to the vice-chancellor, commandant of Ark, governor of Bukhara, V.V. Krestovsky equated it to the great vizier of the Turks, the state chancellor of European countries. A.A. Semenov much more radically assessed the role of kushbegi in the emirate and called him the first administrative person in the state and assistant to the emir.

Some sources indicate that Kushbegi had in his hands the full extent of power. His office was the body of state administration in the emirate, accepting and executing the highest decrees. Some matters of state importance, i.e. waging war, controlling finances, revenues and expenditures, appointing and dismissing high-ranking officials, distributing unique or honorary titles, were within the authority of the emir. The retention of central authority was in many respects related to the combined conduct of secular and religious power politics. The legal life of the population was strictly regulated by the Shari'ah, which was in practice the criminal and civil code in the emirate. The regulation of people's actions and way of life was entrusted to these very clerics.

Interpretation and interpretation of the Shariah, conducting judicial and police (mirshab) supervision were in their hands. The clergymen controlled trade, the market and, most importantly, the observance of religious injunctions and traditions. The clerics, as well as representatives of secular power, had their own lineage and were appointed to the posts of seids, khodjas, qazikalons, ulems, sheikh-ul-islam, and in the provinces they were appointed only to the post of qazi. All remaining local positions of clergy were at the disposal of the local bek.

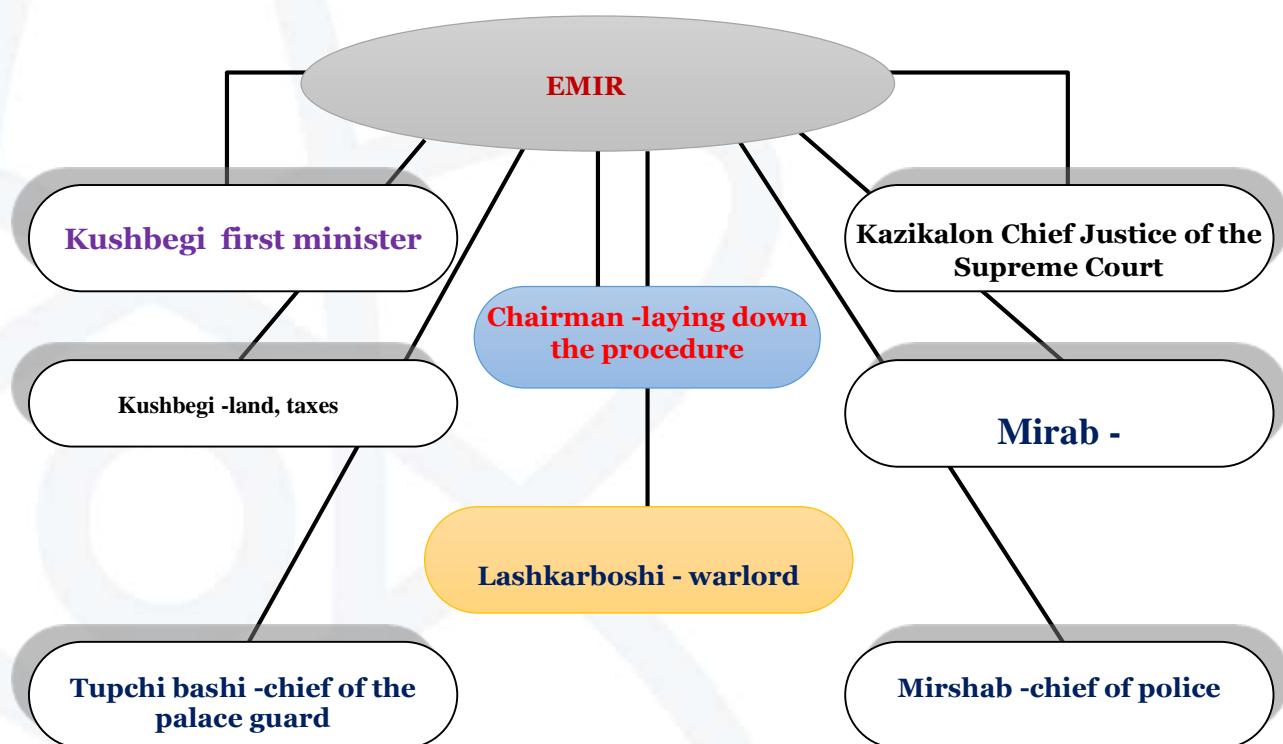
In the system of the central state administration there were the following high posts for the clergy: the Sheikh-ul-islam, permanently under the emir and advising him on Shariah affairs; the Supreme Judge, Qazi Kalon, carrying out law enforcement and justice and having the status of the Minister of Justice; the Chairman, who had the function of controlling the observance of Shariah rules, supervising cemeteries, mosques, madrasas and schools.

The presidency was one of the authoritative positions, to which mainly the seids, descendants of the prophets, were elected. In practice, the chairman was in charge of punishing those who did not follow religious rules and violated Shariah rules. A



landowner who did not have honorary titles was included in the category of the tarkhan estate and was exempted from state tax and payments. The nuker estate was inherited from generation to generation, and officials of the state apparatus were formed from their ranks. Along with the Asiatic administration, a hierarchy of local authority was formed in the emirate. The bek was appointed by a special decree of the emir and was absolutely uncontrolled and independent ruler in his territory.

The following positions were introduced to the bek's administration: devonbegi or zakotchi, engaged in tax collection; personal secretary (mirzoi munshi, leading correspondence with the emir; mirshab - performed the function of police, engaged in regulation and guarding the fortress, prison, armory; amin - was engaged in construction works in the city and fortress, as well as mobilization of population to perform labor duties for the bek and officials; pojchirmi - performed the function of tax collector for the sold goods. In turn, each of them had a certain number of their own people who served them. The problem of forms of private ownership of land and water as a reflection of all social relations in the country was very important for the socio-political development of the emirate. The process of transforming state or public land into private ownership in the early twentieth century was realized, first, by developing public or abandoned land; second, by buying and selling state and public land by private persons; and third, by donating land by the state to officials and authoritative landowners.

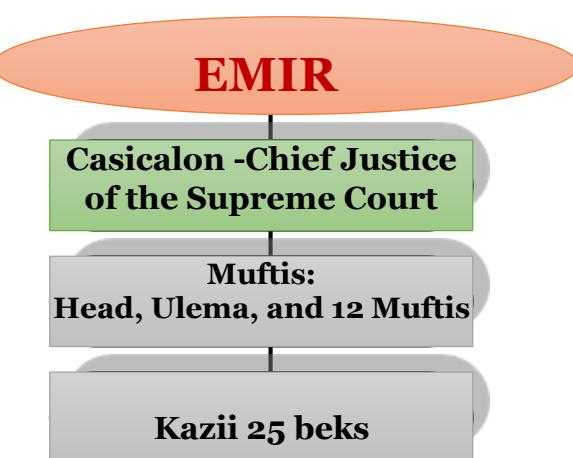




The main and widespread form of land ownership was state land, which consisted of: real estate, sultan's property, and sultan's land (land belonging to the sultanate). At the beginning of the twentieth century there were four forms of private land ownership in Bukhara: mulki khurri kholis, mulki khirozh amloki zamini podshokhi, zamini wakf.



Kazi Burkhaniddin (Badriddinov)



Judicial Activity in the Emirate of Bukhara

The peasant masses used property rent, and owners of such land could sell, donate or mortgage the land. The land tax ranged from $1/3$ to $1/5$ of the harvest. The tithe on property, a tax levied on land called dahyak, was equal to 10 percent of the harvest. In Bukhara, 40.2 percent of the land was "free property" and 15 percent was "rented property." The state treasury was replenished mainly by taxes and various kinds of payments. The payment of Zakat, the main tax, was compulsory for every Muslim and was levied at the rate of one sheep for every 40 heads of sheep. In Bukhara there was no control over the work of the officials who were engaged in the collection of taxes. Taxes were collected by each junior official in such a way that the amount was sufficient to enable the official to live well himself and pay the emir as much as he needed. In addition to zakat, gifts were collected and sent to the capital and included in the total amount of the tax. The amount of the tax varied sharply from province to province. In Baljuwan Province it was 225,000 tangas, but in Denau Province it was only 75,000 tangas.

The land tax was the second most important tax in the emirate's tax system. Different procedures and rules were originally established for the collection of taxes, and in some places it was set at $1/10$ to $1/5$ of the amount of agricultural production, in others it was $1/3$, $3/10$, and in some areas it was not levied at all. In addition, there were dozens of other forms of taxation in the emirate, which were a heavy burden on the workers.





During World War I, Emir of Bukhara Alimkhan (1910-1920) expressed his loyalty to Tsar Nicholas II, donating rubles (money) for military expenses, for which he was awarded the Order of Alexander Nevsky and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general. Thus, at the end of the XIX - beginning of the XX centuries Bukhara Emirate was one of the largest states of Central Asia in terms of territory and population. From the above it can be seen that, like other khanates, Bukhara Emirate had a peculiar state administration and left a trace of historical significance.

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