



Tashkent by the Interpretation of Russian Researchers

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Abstract

The article is devoted to the history of Turkestan in the second half of XIX – beginning of XX centuries. The main object of research is the book by A.I.Dobrosmyslov "Tashkent in the past and present" which was published in 1912. The subject is the study of historical facts stated in the book. The article provides a historical retrospective of the history of Tashkent in the early XX century. The author of the book, being a veteran by profession on the instructions of the administration of the Turkestan General-Governorate, collected a wealth of material on the history of Tashkent. The book, which consists of 15 chapters, covers questions on the history of the city before the conquest, historical facts related to the conquest and the subsequent stages of change and formation of the social and economic life of Tashkent. The authors in the article explore the issues of irrigation in the context of improvement of water supply to the city. The biography of A.I.Dobrosmyslov is studied separately from the source side. The authors widely used the materials of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan to reveal this problem. They mainly use the official records of the Turkestan General-Governorate Office.

Keywords: *Turkestan; Tashkent; Office; Records Management; Biography; Source*

Introduction

In 2012, exactly 100 years of preparation and publication of the book by the outstanding scientist, an active member of the Orenburg Department of the Russian Geographical Society and a member of the Orenburg Academic Archive Commission – A.I.Dobrosmyslov, the author of the book "Tashkent in the past and present" ("*Tashkent v proshlom i nastoyashem*"). The book consists of 15 chapters and covers the issues: About the history of the city before the conquest, the historical facts connected with the conquest of the city, the organization of the administration of the region with the capital in Tashkent, the Economic Department and the courts of the indigenous population, urban self-government, income and expenditure of the city, urban amenities, educational institutions, societies that promote enlightenment, library and museums and book trade, the press, printing and lithography, scientific societies, scientific institutions, statistical committees and societies promoting the dissemination of useful knowledge, the Orthodox Christians. Among the issues covering the history of Tashkent, the issue of the state of veterinary service in

the city is unusual, although in many historical studies of the authors of that period the issues related to the veterinary service were not as if historical subjects.

Therefore, an interesting, but historically and logically unrelated question proceeds from the fact that the author of the material Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov was a veterinarian. The book of over 500 typewritten and lithographic pages was published in the second part of Osip Portsov's printing house, which was opened in his own house on December 13, 1888. This typographic-lithography was the best in the city when the author's book was published. At the beginning of the book, Alexander Ivanovich reports that Russians first received information about Tashkent from Daniel Gubin, the delegate of Ivan IV in 1534.

Main Part

Following the theme, where the main is to study issues related to the role of the city of Tashkent in the scientific and cultural relations of Uzbekistan, on the example of the book by A.I. Dobrosmyslov, the task is to study the historical milestones passed on the way of formation of Tashkent, the scientific and cultural centre of Turkestan in the second half of XIX – early XX centuries.

According to the book, out of a large amount of historical information, I would like to focus on the irrigation of Tashkent as part of the irrigation of the whole Turkestan region. The author in chapter 7 of the book, paying attention to the improvement of the city, initially focused on the issue of irrigation. He notes that "military tasks of that time distracted attention from irrigation, and besides, due to unawareness of the needs of the population, they looked at it as an unnecessary fancy: "They need water, and let them spend it"[1]. It is further noted that at that time this case was so deserving of attention even from the Governor-General's side, that Urda, which was supplied with water by the only ditch Hadragan (maybe Katagan) in which initially the Russian population took refuge, was complete without water. Taking into account these moments Kaufman 19 June 1877 approved the "temporary rules on irrigation of Turkestan region"[2]. At the beginning of the book in the chapter description of the city noted that "water to the city held from the river Chirchik at a distance of 20 miles two large channels, of which parts are already divided and goes past each almost a household" [3].

I.A. Dobrosmyslov, referring to a temporary provision, in fact fully refers to the paragraphs of this rule. Thus, in many cases paragraph 4, "Sowing rice in those areas where it is forbidden at present. The extension of such a restriction to new areas is permitted by the governor, where the health authority recognizes that the measure is necessary hygienically to preserve the health of residents"[4].

Issues related to rice cultivation after initial familiarization with water distribution problems in the Zeravshan river basins, according to the conclusion of Russian irrigation specialists, such as Grigoriev, Zhizhensky, Sobolev and others, rice consumed three times as much irrigation water as cotton or other crops before maturing within 100 days. Therefore, taking into account water shortages during the irrigation season, the regional administration introduces restrictions on rice crops, arguing that this is a health-related problem.

According to researches the territory of Tashkent was equal to the area of 18325 tithes of land and was irrigated with water of the river Chirchik. For example: 12 canals came out of the *Boz-su* canal: *Karasu* (41.5 versts long), *Salar* (43 versts long), *Angar* (28), *Kaikouz* (156), *Yalangach* (146), *Hadragan* (96), *Iwshi* (226), *Kyngrak* (156), *Darvazakent* (226), *Baytik-Kurgan* (56), *Uymaut* (66), *Yuz* (46) total 83 ditches with a length of 173 versts 233 sazhen. [5] Many mahalla names were derived from the location and significance of the named channels and rivers. Questions of study of water supply and irrigation of Tashkent city described in the book of A.I. Dobrosmyslov found its scientific confirmation by those factual researches of scientists, which information is an important historical source. For example, the question of

the water supply of Tashkent city was raised in Turkestan department of Russian technical society, which was prepared by I.T.Poslavsky. But because by the end of the XIX century the society stopped its activity, many scientists-irrigations published their achievements in *"Turkestanskiye Vedomosti"*. Scientific research related to the irrigation of Turkestan can be considered one of the most widely studied aspects of life in the region, during the reign of the General-Governorate.

An important historical-source point is information about the author of the book Dobrosmyslov Alexander Ivanovich, who was a witness of the scientific and cultural life of Tashkent. According to the Internet, he was born in 1854 and died in 1945. Written as a historian and ethnographer, he initially graduated from a spiritual seminary and then from the Veterinary Institute. Despite the very little information on his biography, his work is a useful historical source on the history of the city.

Considering the issues relating to historical sources of Turkestan in the second half of the XIX-early XX centuries, all information concerning the officials who served in the region was necessarily recorded in the materials of the General-Governor's Office. In particular, special service lists and forms were filled in. They are reflected in 33 inventories of the "I-1" fund (Office of the General-Governorate of Turkestan) - the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Preview of the inventory did not help to find the necessary information about the life and activities of A.I. Dobrosmyslov. But it is mentioned in the guidebook of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan, fond-69 (Imperial Russian Geographical Society), in particular, it is said about his letters to scientists of Turkestanoveda such as L.S.Berg and A.P.Fedchenko. But no biographical data were available. Even the reports of Turkestan Department of Russian Geographical Society for 1898–1916 did not contain any information about A.I.Dobrosmylov. Information about all those who served in Turkestan was contained in name catalogues of the archive. It turned out that three such officials who served in Turkestan had names of Dobrosmyslov. Thus, under the surname of A.I.Dobrosmyslov in Syr-Darya regional board of administration, there was a senior doctor of the Ura-Tube medical infirmary Sergei Vasilyevich [6]. Also according to the administration of the chief of Zeravshan district in 1880 there was a case *"about giving allowances to Alexander Dobrosmyslov, deacon of Samarkand Church, for his trip to Tomsk"* [7]. He was going to bring his sister from Tomsk after his parents died. But these officials and ministers did not fit the character of the sphere of activity, although Samarkand deacon Dobromyslov was also Alexander, even attracted the author by the fact that Dobromyslov Alexander graduated from the spiritual seminary. But there is no evidence of the priest's scientific activity. It should be noted that Alexander Ivanovich's certificate contains no record that he graduated from the seminary. But unexpectedly, among the materials of the Office of the General-Governor of Turkestan for number 40 of 1909 was the case "On the appointment of retired State Counselor A.I.Dobrosmyslov to the post of Manager of the Veterinary part of the civil department in the region" [8]. The proceedings on this issue Office of the General-Governor of Turkestan begins June 12, 1908. On the first page, there is a handwritten report of A.I.Dobrosmyslov himself dated June 11, 1908. In the report, retired State Counselor Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov wrote that he served 18 years in the Kyrgyz steppes as a veterinary inspector, chief of peasants and chairman of the county congress of peasant leaders, got seriously ill. In his spare time, he devoted to the study of the region in archaeological, historical, economic and ethnographic relations, as a result of which up to 150 typewritten works (in the manuscript it is impossible to read the number of works or the number of sheets) about Kyrgyz people in different scientific magazines in the form of separate books and brochures were printed at different times. He asks for his appointment as a veterinarian in one of the regions, the letter indicates the names of three indigenous districts in the region. In the end, he gives his home address: Simbirsk. Little Kazanskaya street, house. Krasilnikovs № 25. Alexander Ivanovich Dobromyslov [9]. This case with an indirect name turned out to be the most necessary material, I will add that no researcher has used this source so far.

A.I.Dobrosmyslov added to the report a certificate from the Turgai regional government on the ex peasant head of the 2nd section of the Turgai county, the state councillor. It is reported that at the time of issuing the certificate on August 24, 1907, he was 53 years old. From hereditary noblemen, he had orders

for service. He received as a veterinarian the maintenance of 1000 rubles in canteens and 1000 rubles in salaries, only 2000 rubles per year. He had no ancestral and acquired estates. He was brought up in Kazan Veterinary Institute and on August 18, 1879 was awarded the Degree of Veterinarian and was issued the Veterinary Diploma №744/69-22 September 1879. From September 20, 1879 to May 14, 1880 he was a teacher at the school of veterinary paramedics at the Perm Provincial Land without the right of State Service. After participating in the elimination of epidemic diseases in Minsk Province on March 18, 1881, he was appointed to the post of supreme veterinarian of this province. By the Decree of the Governing Senate on April 2, 1885, joined the rank of the Collegiate Secretary, from 1886 on seniority Titular Councillors. Alexander was sent to Voronezh Province to take measures against the plague on cattle. In 1888 was assigned to the Podolsk province veterinarian, in the same year was made to the Collegiate Assessors. By the order of the Minister of Internal Affairs Gagarin from 1888–1891, he was on a business trip to the Turgai region to take measures against the plague. In 1900 he was promoted to the Councillors of the court for his long service. By the order of the Minister of Internal Affairs, he corrected the post of the head of the veterinary part of Orenburg province over and above his direct duties. In 1903 promoted to the Collegiate Councillors. On the instructions of the Turgai Regional Statistics Committee, he compiled a book "Cattle breeding in Turgai region" (*"Skotovodstvo v Turgajskoj oblasti"*). Also on the instructions of the Military Governor of the Turgai region, he compiled a booklet "Transit movement of industrial livestock and animal products through the Turgai region" (*"Tranzitnoe peredvizhenie promyshlennogo skota i zhivotnyh produktov cherez Turgajskuyu oblast"*) [10].

In 1897 he was elected a member of the Kazan Veterinary Institute correspondent. In 1898, by order of the Regional Statistical Committee, he compiled the brochure "Kyrgyz products from wool and hair" (*"Kirgizskie izdeliya iz shersti i volosa"*), "Measures taken in Turgai region to improve horse breeding until 1886" (*"Mery prinyimavshiesya v Turgajskoj oblasti k uluchsheniyu konevodstva do 1886g"*), "Trade in Turgai region" (*"Torgovlya v Turgajskoj oblasti"*), "Maintenance and breeding of Kyrgyz dogs and cats and poultry" (*"Soderzhanie i razvedenie kirgizskih sobak i koshek i domashnih ptich"*).

In 1898, on the instructions of the Military Governor of Turgai region, he compiled brochures "Postal and land routes in Turgai region" (*"Postovye i zemskie trakty v Turgajskoj oblasti"*), "Fauna in Turgai region" (*"Fauna v Turgajskoj oblasti"*). In 1898–1899 he corrected the duties of editor of Turgai regional bulletins. In 1899 he was promoted to the rank of state councillor.

On the instructions of the Military Governor of Turgai region, he compiled the book "Materials on the history of Russia T.1" (*"Materialy po istorii Rossii T.1"*). He was sent to St. Petersburg to participate in a special meeting on the development of rules on the order of the extension of livestock and animal products in the empire. He was several times elected an honorary justice of the peace of the region, a member of the statistical committee of the region, several times served as Advisor to the Regional Board. In 1900, by order of the Regional Statistical Committee, he compiled the book "Materials on the history of Russia T.P." (*"Materialy po istorii Rossii T.1"*).

By order of the Orenburg department of the Russian Geographical Society, he prepared the 1st issue of the book "Turgai region, historical essay" (*"Turgajskaya oblast', istoricheskij ocherk"*) and by order of the Orenburg Academic Archive "Committee he prepared the brochure", "Bashkir rebellion in 1735, 1736 and 1737" (*"Bashkirskij bunt v 1735, 1736 i 1737 gg."*). In 1901 he was transferred to the post of Tver provincial veterinarian. In 1902, he was appointed peasant chief of the 2nd section of Turgai County. He was in charge of the congress of peasant chiefs. On July 24, 1907, by the highest order of the civil department, he was dismissed from his uniform upon his resignation.

He was a widow, at the time of writing his certificate, his son Alexander had graduated from Moscow University as a lawyer, his daughter Larisa was a mathematician in higher women's courses. Daughter Maria also took the same courses [11].

The Office of the General- Governor of Turkestan, after receiving a response to the requests, issued certificates that it has no obstacles to the appointment of Colonel V.A.Mustafin as the Head of the Office of the General-Governor [12].

After the passage of the centuries-old historical path and from the standpoint of scientific and innovative assessments of the XXI century, the question is raised for what purpose was the book written by A.I.Dobrosmyslov? The answer to this question is given by the author himself in the preface of his book. They can be defined in three directions. First: the author believes that due to the lack of special stories on Tashkent in the literature. Secondly, the task is to use the statement of the officials, who survived from the Kaufman period, considering them as spreaders of the science of the sixties and seventies. Third, the author decided to prepare a book in connection with the fact that soon (and this is 1915) it was supposed to be fifty years old, "as we own Tashkent, and by that time it is necessary to collect materials and sum up our activities here". A.I.Dobrosmyslov, along with a statement of historical facts, as he acknowledges the collection of information about the backstage of urban life in the Kaufman era. For this reason, some data about the General-Governor, about the rulers and managers of the General-Governor's Office and other facts are instructive in the author's opinion.

Conclusion

Many historical facts, according to A.I. Dobrosmyslov, were given to him by N.P.Ostroumov, who had 35–40 years of historical length. Many information about the activities of administrative bodies in Turkestan was obtained from the archive of the General-Governor's Office, which the author considered the only well-equipped archive [13]. The author was deeply grateful to other officials who provided important information.

Despite the fact that A.I. Dobrosmyslov, having no special historical education, being a veterinarian by his hobby, collected the richest material on the history of the city of Tashkent as a center of culture and science in the second half of XIX – beginning of XX centuries.

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