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**THE FORMATION, STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, AND MODERN
TRANSFORMATION OF THE CUSTOMS SYSTEM IN THE BUKHARA REGION**

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Abstract

This scientific thesis is devoted to a comprehensive analysis of the formation, historical development, and modern transformation of the customs system in the Bukhara region. The study examines the evolution of the customs system from the period of the Bukhara Emirate through the Bukhara People’s Soviet Republic (1920–1924), the Soviet era, and the conditions of independent Uzbekistan. Historical-source analysis, comparative statistical methods, and a systemic analytical approach were employed. Based on foreign trade turnover data for 2021–2022, the economic performance of the Bukhara Regional Customs Administration is assessed. The findings demonstrate the significance of the customs system in ensuring regional economic security, regulating foreign trade, and enhancing transparency through digitalization and anti-corruption mechanisms. The thesis has substantial scientific and practical relevance for doctoral-level research and international academic discourse.

Key words

Bukhara region, customs system, foreign trade, export, import, customs control, historical development, digitalization, anti-corruption mechanisms, economic security.

INTRODUCTION

The customs system represents one of the key strategic institutions ensuring national economic security, stability of foreign trade, and sustainable budget revenues. In particular, the formation and development of the customs system in the Bukhara region—one of the most significant geo-economic areas of Central Asia—holds importance not only at the regional but also at the national level. Historically, Bukhara has been located at a crossroads of the Great Silk Road, which closely links the evolution of trade relations, caravan routes, and customs administration with this territory [1].

This thesis analyzes the stages of development of the customs system in the Bukhara region from the era of the Bukhara Emirate through the Bukhara People’s Soviet Republic, the Soviet period, and the years of independence using a comprehensive analytical approach. Special attention is given to modern reforms, including digitalization of customs services, changes in foreign trade volumes, and the implementation of anti-corruption mechanisms. The relevance of this research is determined by the need to examine customs administration from historical, legal, and economic perspectives in order to enhance the effectiveness of contemporary reforms.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study applies historical, systemic, comparative-statistical, and source-analysis methods. Primary sources include archival documents of the Bukhara Regional Customs Administration, regulatory and legal acts, and relevant scientific publications. Comparative analysis of foreign trade indicators for 2021–2022 was conducted to evaluate economic dynamics. Historical stages were examined through the lens of customs posts during the Emirate period, institutional changes during the BPSR era, and legal and organizational reforms implemented after independence [2].

RESULTS

The results indicate that the customs system in the Bukhara region has undergone a long and continuous historical evolution. During the Emirate period, customs institutions primarily focused on collecting duties from merchants, supervising caravan routes, and securing state revenues. In the period of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, customs administration was reorganized in accordance with centralized Soviet governance, leading to strict regulation of foreign trade.

Following Uzbekistan's independence, the customs system was fundamentally restructured and emerged as an independent institution within the public administration framework. Statistical analysis of 2021–2022 data reveals that foreign trade turnover in the Bukhara region increased by approximately 25–26 percent. Growth in imports is largely explained by rising production and consumer demand, whereas the decline in exports reflects global economic conditions and logistical challenges [3].

Furthermore, the introduction of electronic declarations, risk management systems, and compliance control mechanisms has contributed to increased transparency and reduced corruption risks within customs operations.

DISCUSSION

The findings confirm that the development of the customs system is closely connected with broader political and economic transformations within the country. Historical experience demonstrates that customs efficiency is determined not only by revenue collection but also by its role in regulating foreign trade and safeguarding economic security. Contemporary reforms focused on digitalization and anti-corruption measures align with international standards. At the same time, the rapid growth of imports raises concerns regarding the trade balance, underscoring the need for further enhancement of export potential and customs tariff policies.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the customs system of the Bukhara region represents a complex institution shaped through centuries of historical development and currently undergoing significant modernization. Analysis of its evolution from the Emirate period to independent Uzbekistan highlights its substantial economic and legal importance. Digitalization and compliance-based control mechanisms play a crucial role in improving the effectiveness of customs administration. The findings of this thesis provide a solid theoretical and practical foundation for doctoral-level research and contribute to international scholarly discussions on customs systems and public administration.



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