

**FOREIGN TRADE RELATIONS OF EASTERN BUKHARA WITH INDIA IN THE
19TH-20TH CENTURIES**

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Abstract: This article studies the internal system of markets and caravanserais in trade relations between the Bukhara Emirate and India in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. It studies the products exported from Bukhara to India and vice versa, as well as the development of trade relations between the two countries over the years. This research focuses on trade relations between the cities of Bukhara, Samarkand, Karshi, Termez, and Sherabad and the Indian trading centers of Peshawar, Shikarpur, and Multan.

Keywords: Caravanserai, transit, trade duty, rasta, khanaqoh, hujra, lunka.

Introduction: Studying the trade relations of the Bukhara Emirate in the 19th-20th centuries, we see that the Bukhara Emirate traded constantly with Khiva, Kokand, Russia, Afghanistan, Iran, China, India, and European countries. During this period, competition between English and Russian products in Bukhara markets was especially strong compared to goods imported from other foreign countries. English products were mainly imported into Bukhara markets via India. E.D. Eversman notes that in 1820, Persian and Indian merchants brought goods manufactured by English manufacturers to the markets of the Bukhara Emirate [1].

By the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, trade relations between Bukhara and India continued to be steady. Trade relations between the cities of Bukhara, Samarkand, Karshi, Termez, and Sherabad of the Emirate and Peshawar, Shikarpur, Multan, and other Indian trading centers developed annually [2]. A. Negri, who visited Bukhara in 1820, noted the presence of 14 caravanserais: Abdullajon, Qushbegi, Hind, Nogai, Khoja Juybara, Tashkent, Karshi, Miragul, Amir, Kull Ota, Fishana, Jankulshira, and Urgench, where English and foreign trade goods were sold. In caravanserais and markets, imported products were sold along with local trade goods [3]. Merchants rented one or more rooms in these caravanserais according to their needs and preferences. In addition, in the covered markets, foreign merchants rented small or large rooms to store their goods permanently or for a certain period. According to sources, valuable Indian, Persian, Russian, and English goods were sold in large quantities in markets throughout the emirate [4].

Indian merchants brought English goods to the markets of Bukhara, along with Indian trade goods. Anglo-Indian goods were imported into the emirate mainly through two routes. The first route went from Calcutta or Bombay to Kabul via Peshawar and from there to Bukhara. The second route went by sea to the port of Bandar Bushehr on the Persian Gulf and from this port to Bukhara via Isfahan, Mashhad, Merv, and Chorjou. Merchants rarely used the second route, mainly in emergencies. In addition, this route was much longer in terms of distance and was therefore more inconvenient for merchants [5]. According to historical data, foreign merchants in the emirate markets were granted the right to trade freely and reside without restrictions in the emirate territories. In addition, guarantees were given against discrimination against

representatives of other religions, and they were guaranteed the freedom to return to their homeland at any time. However, these non-Muslim traders were required to pay double the customs duty of Sunni Muslims. [6]

A. Burns noted that Indian traders in the Emirate of Bukhara enjoyed similar privileges. As Muslim traders, no one in the Emirate forced them to convert. [7] In the markets of the Emirates, a piece of Anglo-Indian pocket cloth cost 15-17 coins; first-grade calico cost 2 gold coins per piece, second-grade 1.5 gold coins, and third-grade 1 gold coin and 7 coins. Twenty yellow alvukelins were sold for 34 gold coins and red ones for 40 gold coins. Four pounds of green tea of the Lunka variety were sold for 55 gold coins, black tea for 40 gold coins, ground tea for 30 gold coins, and white-headed tea for 25 gold coins. A pound of indigo could be purchased for 4-4.5 gold coins, a butt of sugar for 16 gold coins, and a butt of pepper for 24 gold coins [8]. In the 1860s, British cotton, wool, and silk goods worth 170,000 pounds sterling were imported from India to Bukhara via Kabul on an annual basis [9].

L.F. Kostenko provided not only the prices of Anglo-Indian goods in the emirate's markets but also the prices of products imported from Russia. The following products were sold in the markets of the Emirates: a pound of white sugar for 40 coins, a pound of tea for 14 gold coins, a pound of candles for 55 coins, a batman of copper for 23 gold coins, a pound of brass for 80-85 gold coins, 16 pounds of iron for 200 gold coins, cast iron utensils up to 12 gold coins depending on size, a pound of tin for 55 gold coins, a piece of chintz for 29-45 gold coins, a piece of calico for 35 gold coins, a piece of woolen cloth for 5-5.5 gold coins, 10 pieces of black leather for 230-250 gold coins, red leather for 250-270 gold coins, a piece of tika woven at the Bogomozov factory for 57-60 gold coins, a box of kalyabatun (for embroidering kalyapushey) for 100-114 gold coins, a batman of kvass for 7 gold coins, and a batman of ammonia for 7 gold coins [10].

Indo-British goods were also imported into the emirate's markets in large quantities from Afghanistan. The Emirate of Bukhara traded with Afghanistan mainly in the summer, as the Hindu Kush mountain passes were completely covered with snow in winter. Every year, 3-3.5 thousand camels brought trade goods from Afghanistan to Bukhara. According to reports, every year, Indo-British goods worth 170,000 pounds sterling or more than 1 million rubles were imported into the emirate's markets from Kabul. The main trade goods consisted of various paper, silk, and woolen products, cashmere scarves, and indigo and blue and white striped paper scarves (pota) used for summer turbans. The emirate exported raw silk materials, cotton fabrics, and Russian products such as textiles, metal products, chests, and other goods to Afghanistan [11]. The development of industry and production in the country has led to an increase in production.

Consequently, special attention was paid to trade relations with foreign countries. In the 1870s and 1880s, the volume of goods imported from India to Bukhara increased significantly. During these years, 70,000 pounds of tea, 18,000 pounds of indigo (dye) or 1,400 rolls, 80 pounds of dye, 50 Kashmiri carpets, and 30 gold-embroidered Indian goods were imported from India to Bukhara [12]. Subsequently, imports of Indian goods steadily increased. According to official data (in 1881), 600 bundles were transported from India to Bukhara annually on 300 camels, each bundle containing 2,400 pieces of cloth, for a total of 1,440,000 bundles [13]. Tea was the most important product imported from India to the Emirate of Bukhara during this period. In 1860, 84,000 pounds of tea were imported from India to Bukhara and distributed among six caravanserais. For example, "Saroyi Abdurashid" received 3,000 camel loads of tea per year, "Saroyi Mirzagul" 1,500 camel loads, and "Saroyi Badriddin" 1,200 camel loads of tea per year. In the 1870s and the 1880s, 112,000 pounds of green tea, 23,000 pounds of indigo, and 20,000 pounds of muslin were imported to Bukhara [14]. According to information provided by Kushbegi to the Russian political agent in Bukhara (October 1886), 200 camel loads of tea were imported from India to Bukhara via Afghanistan in 1886 [15]. M.A. Terentyev also commented

on the tea trade in the emirate, saying, "Our position in Bukhara is very weak; these markets are completely alien to us" [16]. In this way, they expressed their concerns to the Russian government.

Tea imported from India was much cheaper in the Bukhara markets, with a pound of tea costing 20-28 rubles. As a result, Bukhara merchants exported Indian tea to the Turkestan region, paying a duty of 14 rubles 40 kopecks per pound, and selling it in the Tashkent market for 54 rubles per pound. Considering customs duties, merchants earned 11 rubles 60 kopecks per pound of tea and up to 26 rubles when smuggled without paying customs duties. Indigo dye imported from India was also in high demand in the Turkestan region, and it was sold in the markets at much higher prices than other dyes. For example, merchants paid a duty of 6 rubles per pound of indigo dye but made a profit of 36-38 rubles per pound [17]. In 1887, caravans from India made 15 trips to Bukhara markets through Afghanistan [18]. Among their products were 1,400 pieces of gauze and unbleached calico, which were quite expensive in the emirate markets, 250 Kashmir carpets, and 300 pieces of gold-woven kimkhob (brocade) fabrics, which were popular in Central Asia. The available scientific literature provides various statistical data on Bukhara-India trade relations. For example, according to E. Ya. In 1889, Lyusternik reported that products worth 2,924,420 rubles were imported from India to Bukhara via Afghanistan, and in 1890, products worth 2,336,000 rubles [19]. According to A.Ya. Sokolov, products worth 2,336,510 rubles were imported from India to Bukhara.

SUMMARY

The Emirate of Bukhara maintained active trade relations with India throughout the 19th century. The volume of English trade goods in the markets of the Emirate of Bukhara increased annually. This process caused concern for Russia, as it also saw these markets as a target for its own products. Subsequently, each state accelerated its efforts to import trade goods to this region as quickly and in large quantities. Most Indian merchants who traded in the Emirate of Bukhara were from Multan, Kabul, and Shikarpur. Merchants from both countries brought British goods to the markets of Bukhara, along with Indian goods. Consequently, the share of English goods in the emirate's markets increased, leading to greater competition with trade goods imported from other foreign countries.

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