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IBI (India) = 4.260
OAJI (USA) = 0.350

SOI: [1.1/TAS](#) DOI: [10.15863/TAS](#)

International Scientific Journal Theoretical & Applied Science

p-ISSN: 2308-4944 (print) e-ISSN: 2409-0085 (online)

Year: 2021 Issue: 07 Volume: 99

Published: 17.07.2021 <http://T-Science.org>

QR – Issue



QR – Article



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DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TRADE IN THE AMUDARYA DIVISION IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH - EARLY 20TH CENTURIES

Abstract: *The article examines the process of development of economic and cultural trade agriculture and the specialization of commodity production, the growth of commodity-money circulation and the emergence of fair, bazaar and stationary trade, the emergence of new shopping centers, as well as the strengthening of trade relations between the Karakalpaks and neighboring peoples in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.*

Key words: *trade, despotic, raw materials, commodity, social, monetary, stationary, culture, patriarchal, economy, feudal, market, capitalist, Russian firms, fair.*

Language: *English*

Citation: *Tangirbergenova, K. (2021). Development of domestic and foreign trade in the Amudarya division in the second half of the 19th - early 20th centuries. ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science, 07 (99), 83-86.*

Soi: <http://s-o-i.org/1.1/TAS-07-99-19> **Doi:**  <https://dx.doi.org/10.15863/TAS.2021.07.99.19>

Scopus ASCC: 1202.

Introduction

The development of domestic and foreign trade in the Amudarya division stimulated the decomposition of patriarchal-feudal and the penetration of capitalist relations. This is evidenced by the involvement of Karakalpak farms in trade relations, the emergence of fair, bazaar and stationary trade, the emergence of new shopping centers, as well as the strengthening of trade relations of the Karakalpaks with neighboring countries of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and especially with Russia. Notable shifts in socio-economic development were caused not only by market relations, but also by the emergence of demand for labor, its inclusion in the all-Russian and, in part, the world market influenced the development of the industry of the Amudarya division.

In order to obtain cheap raw materials for the industry of the metropolis and create an additional market for its products, the tsarist government took a number of measures in the field of land and water use, which objectively contributed to the development of commercial agriculture in Karakalpakistan and the emergence of capitalist relations. Climatic and soil conditions in the Amudarya division favored the

introduction of various valuable crops here: cotton, wheat, barley, rice, dzhugara (sorghum), sesame, alfalfa [1, p. 174]. Cotton was the main cash crop in crop production. The development of cotton growing especially intensified, for example, if in 1882 8,540 poods were sown in the Amudarya division and 98,472 poods of cotton were removed, then in 1885, respectively, 9145 and 112,239 poods [2, p.123].

The main findings and results

The massive sowing of cotton on loans from individual Russian firms has been noted since the end of the 19th century, when farmers became convinced of the profitability of this industry. The development of cotton growing was stimulated by the introduction of a duty on cotton imported from abroad, a sufficient import of grain by the Trans-Caspian Railway, and a preferential taxation of land occupied by the sowing of American cotton. All these measures contributed to a sharp increase in commercial cotton growing.

The growth of cotton growing in Karakalpakistan, as in other regions of Turkestan, did not occur due to the expansion of irrigated lands, but as a result of a decrease in the area of food crops, in particular, grain and fodder crops. In 1889-1910, the

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sown area under cotton increased from 3,000 dessiatines to 6,438 dessiatines, and the gross harvest from 1895 to 1913 increased from 196,000 poods to 943,600 poods [3, p. 42]. The Chimbay site has also become one of the largest suppliers of cotton. Two cotton ginning factories built in the village of Chimbay cleaned 154 wagons of fiber in 1915-1916 [4, p. 98]. The development of cotton growing contributed to the growth of the turnover of industrial and commercial enterprises. Agricultural products cotton, alfalfa, wool, leather, leaving the hands of producers and concentrating in the hands of buyers, before being exported from the oasis, were already the subject of wholesale trade. The products were collected in large warehouses, owned mainly by Russian merchants.

Alfalfa was also an important cash crop for the Karakalpaks, which, along with dzhugara and straw, served as fodder for livestock. In addition, in the absence of artificial fertilizers and the presence of intensive farming, alfalfa was used as a crop enriching the soil.

In Turkestan, the importance of alfalfa as a commercial crop has grown even more. In the first place in terms of its cultivation was especially the Chimbay site, the sown area under alfalfa made up here in 1913 94% of alfalfa crops in the Amudarya division [5, p. 57]. If in the Khiva Khanate, alfalfa was cultivated exclusively for hay; in the Chimbay area it was mainly cultivated for seeds. To do this, it was collected from the third cut and threshed in a primitive way. The seeds of the Karakalpak alfalfa were considered one of the best not only in Russia, but also on the international market; they were exported to Germany, America, Canada and Argentina. The main exporters of this culture were the Russian-Asian Bank [6, p. 67].

The high market value also led to the increased cost of alfalfa in comparison with food crops. Before the First World War, the price of 1 pound of its seeds on average was three times higher than the cost of 1 pound of wheat. Dehkans (farmers), having appreciated the advantages of growing cotton and wheat, everywhere expanded their crops at the expense of food crops.

No less valuable culture was the mulberry tree, which was used by the Karakalpaks at first as a building material for the manufacture of individual parts of the yurt, and after the conquest of tsarist Russia for the development of silkworm breeding. By 1911, 335 farms were engaged in silkworms in Karakalpakstan, which received only 360 poods of cocoons. The fodder fund was 53.5 thousand mulberry roots [7, 136].

The specific natural conditions of the delta region did not allow the Karakalpaks to concentrate entirely on agriculture and contributed to the development of another branch of the cattle breeding

economy. Karakalpakstan was the most profitable area for breeding improved dairy cattle.

Along with meat and dairy cattle breeding, sheep breeding played an important role. The Karakalpaks bred sheep of three breeds: Kazakh (meat), Russian (wool) and their own karakul [8, 57]. The increase in demand for karakul in connection with the development of trade led to an increase in the number of sheep of this breed in 1906-1908 from 60 thousand to 74,090. [9,234]

The development of trade in agricultural products, with the penetration of commodity-money relations into the agriculture of Karakalpakstan, the trade in agricultural and livestock products expanded. Trade was carried out, as noted earlier, in bazaars that functioned twice a week. There were bazaars in all large cities of the Amudarya division, Petro-Aleksandrovsk, Sheikhabazvali (now Biruni), Shurakhan, Biybazar, Sarybiy (Shurakhan area), [10, p. 15] Chimbay, Nukus, Nazarkhan (Chimbai area), Khojeyli, Kungrad and Mangyt (Shabbaz section). At the same time, trade exchange was conducted not only among the local population of Uzbeks, Karakalpaks, Turkmens, and Kazakhs with Russian merchants. Agricultural products cotton, alfalfa, wool, leather, leaving the hands of producers and concentrating in the hands of buyers, before being exported from the oasis, were already the subject of wholesale trade. The products were collected in large warehouses, owned mainly by Russian merchants. The Russian transport and insurance company opened a special office and warehouse in Petro-Aleksandrovsk for receiving and dispatching goods to Central Russia and goods arriving at the Amudarya division. In 1909, the main office of the Moscow trade and industrial partnership was established in Urgench [11, p. 277].

Industrial goods from Central Russia were delivered to Karakalpakstan by a large trading company of merchants S. Ravirov, I. Brodsky and K. Shirman and an Armenian company Andre - Caspian, as well as Orenburg and other merchants who came for raw materials. Cotton and leather were transported to Moscow and wool to the Nizhny Novgorod fair, and to the cities of the middle Volga region, alfalfa seeds - to Hamburg and North America, carpets - to Turkey, butter - to Baku, fish - to Orenburg [12, p. 152]. The Amudarya division, like the whole of Central Asia, was not only an agricultural raw material base, but also a very profitable market for the industrial products of tsarist Russia.

The Nizhny Novgorod fair was of great importance for the development of trade relations in the Amudarya division. Manufacturers sold their products on it and purchased raw materials. Large traders bought large quantities of goods in bulk and sold them in the markets of the region. The supply and demand for goods, their prices was also largely determined by the Nizhny Novgorod fair. In 1886, objects of material culture of the Amudarya division

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and the Khiva Khanate were shown at the Nizhny Novgorod exhibition [13, p. 285]. On display were a large yurt, various silver jewelry, silk and cotton materials, and agricultural crops [14,345]. In 1889, at the first fishing exhibition organized in St. Petersburg, fishing nets made from local material were presented.

The paucity and imperfection of communication lines hindered the economic, cultural and political development of Karakalpakstan. Agricultural and livestock products were exported from the oasis in insufficient quantities due to the extremely high cost of animal-drawn transport. The transportation of goods was also carried out by the flotillas of the Aral Sea and Amu Darya and the joint-stock company "Khiva". The Amudarya flotilla, due to its military purpose, transported relatively few agricultural products, 30 thousand poods a year, including 15 thousand poods of cotton. On caravan routes, goods were delivered by camels (85 thousand camels annually) and by carts (20 thousand arb) [15, p. 158].

The development of commercial cotton growing and alfalfa farming in Karakalpakstan led to the emergence of industrial enterprises engaged, however, only in the primary processing of agricultural raw materials. This was explained by the fact that tsarism deliberately kept Karakalpakstan in the role of a market for the sale of products of Russian industry and a supplier of raw materials for factories and factories of the metropolis.

The established enterprises were dwarf and technically backward. But what is important is that

they were created and existed in the most backward and remote areas from the center, and new people with new outlooks on life grew up in them. Most of the factories and plants belonged to the agents of the commercial and industrial firms of Central Russia "Partnership of the Big Yaroslavl Manufactory", "Moscow Commercial and Industrial Partnership". Together with the branch of the Russian-Asian Bank in Urgench [16, p. 127], they conducted trade and usury operations in the cities and countryside of Karakalpakstan, pumping out huge profits. Local factories, in addition to the primary processing of raw cotton, served as storage points for all kinds of raw materials supplied by intermediary merchants, for whom the latter were released factory products for resale to the population at higher prices.

Conclusion

Thus, during the colonial period, significant changes took place in the socio-economic life of the population of Karakalpakstan. At the beginning of the 20th century, trade in the products of agricultural raw materials was widely developed, and the division of labor in the production of commercial cotton, alfalfa and livestock products began to take shape. Breeders and buyers appeared, new markets were formed, domestic and foreign trade grew, and industrial enterprises were created. Karakalpakstan was included in the all-Russian and world market, the process of decomposition of the natural economy was going on in it.

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