



## The Arrival of the Germans in Central Asia (On the Example of the Fergana Valley)

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### Abstract:

In this article, on a scientific basis, the migration of Germans who penetrated into Central Asia at the end of the 19th and 20th century, the proportion of Germans rendered in the development of the socio-economic life of region, the role of the German population in the demographic process of the territory, the practical role of the German intellectuals in the development will be studied, the edges.

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The Fergana Valley has traditionally had a multicultural population. The area has been inhabited primarily by locals from ancient times, but the ethnic composition of the region's population has changed as a consequence of assimilation of other peoples. The change in the ethnic composition of the population of the valley was caused not only by the invasion of different peoples, but also by different relations between the peoples.

Such relations have been intertwined with trade, education, improved living standards, or the loss of a nation's ethnic identity or nationality. With its historical processes, the Fergana Valley is an area that has a significant place in world history. In particular, the influx of Europeans into Central Asia during the 19th and 20th centuries facilitated the spread of European culture and lifestyle in our region. During this period, along with the various peoples who entered the Fergana Valley, the German people also made a worthy contribution to the development of other regions of Uzbekistan. E.K. Meyendorf,

E.A. Eversman, Miller (diplomats), A.F. Middendorf, K.Shmidt, I.Gildenshdedt, I.I.Geyer, I.Krauze (scientists), M.F.Mauyer, Sinclair, B.S.Geintselman, E.P.Braun. Aksentovich, Bot, I.R.Sakovich, Kiner (architects and builders), Wilde, G.V.Durshmidt, M.German, A.Shott, L.Zalman, A.Wolfza, N.A. Greenberg, A.I.Ziegel, S.A.Knabe, V.E.Kox, A.F.Stefan, M.R.Keller (entrepreneurs), K.P. Kaufman, Neyfelder, Geishtor (doctors), M.G.Shot, N.L.Pfeifer, Y.Y.Lyutsh, N.E.Betger (teacher scientists), Gortenveld (publicist), Pflaumer K.R, P.F.Foss, E.I.Muller, K.F.Lerx, A.A.Pander (discovered minerals) ) and other representatives of the German people made a significant contribution to the development of science in the region [7:10-b]. The Germans' acquaintance with Central Asia dates back to the first expeditions of the Russian government to the region in the 17th and 18th centuries. Germans were also included in the expeditions headed by I. Buchgols in 1714 and Bekovich-Cherkassky in 1717. In 1763, after Russian Emperor Catherine II signed the Manifesto for Permitting Foreigners for Permanent Residence, a group of "Brother Mennonites" led by E.K.Meydorf, E.A.Eversman, and H.Pander was formed, and they advanced the idea that Central Asia could be a safe haven for the Germans [7:22-p]. As a result, for the first time in 1880 and 1884, Germans began to migrate to Turkestan. The German settlements in Turkestan were known by two names: Russian and German. Like Vladimirovka, Gnadenfeld-Andreevka, Keppental-Romanovka. Of the 260 European tourists who visited Bukhara and Turkestan between 1890 and 1898, 70 were Germans, and 14 were Germans in terms of the largest number of tourists staying in Turkestan [p. 7:26].

Scholars such as Johann Gottlieb Georgi, Johann Falk, Peter Pallas, Samuel Gmelin, and Johann Gildenstedt, who conducted research in Central Asia, were ethnic Germans [1: 7-p]. Jacob Bouver, who created the first map of Turkestan in 1791, was also German. It is obvious that Uzbek and German cultural ties have a certain history. Proof of this can be found in the fifteenth-century book "Nine German Bibles" kept in the library of Alisher Navoi, as well as the opera "Temurlang / Temirlan" composed by German composer Georg Gendel and performed at the Royal Theater in London [1: 7-p].

The first German migration to Fergana took place in the 1860s. At the beginning of 1877, the Fergana Valley's Russian-speaking population numbered around 700 people, mostly servicemen and officials [1: 265-266-p]. Three Prussians and one Saxon came to Turkestan with Russian residents in 1869. By 1877, the German population in the country was 17 people [8:20-b]. When the Fergana region was formed in 1876, the first German military family moved to the valley [2: 166-p]. The main reason for the influx of Europeans to our country in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was Russification, improving the quality of life by relocating people living in some of Russia's most backward, hard-to-reach areas to Central Asia.

On the territory of Uzbekistan, Germans were brought as secondary migrants from different regions of Russia, especially from the Volga region (Ukraine). In particular, the mass relocation of German and Austro-Hungarian soldiers captured in World War I to Turkestan. This had a significant impact on the German population in the country.

In July 1914, Turkestan received 148,000 prisoners of war, 350 civilians, and 70,000 refugees. In 1917, the number of German refugees in Turkestan reached 810,000. Germans from Volyn and Kiev provinces were among them [2:167-p].

In addition, "3,515 German soldiers and 60 officers remained in Turkestan (Uzbekistan) [2: 167-b]." As a result of the relative peace and freedom, German captives and refugees working in enterprises and organizations staged different German nights and charity events. This caused for the revival of German culture in the country. "There were 8 German schools and workers' clubs in 1922 [2: 167-p]."

We know that the main reason for Russia's invasion of Central Asia was cotton. The L. Knop trade house, formed in 1841 by the German baron L.G. Knop, who lived in Moscow, played a significant role in this industry. The firm began to carry out cotton-related operations in Central Asia in the 1890s [8: p. 236]. The trading house opened branches in Namangan and Andijan, and will purchase two ginneries in Kokand district that processed 355,000 pounds of cotton [8: 236-b]. With a capital of 4 million rubles, the L. Knop trading house had taken over the management of 7 ginneries and a soap factory in Kokand, Andijan, Skobelev, Namangan, Khojand, and Margilan by 1917. German investors had also attempted to enter the oil industry, which is linked to the cotton sector. . "In 1901, the German Joint Stock Company (Cologne) wanted to enter the Turkestan oil industry [8: 237-p]". But, the governor-general of Turkestan did not allow it. "However, the attempts were not in vain. In 1902, a two-press oil plant of the Siegel and Reynogagen trading house was opened in Namangan. In 1904, the company built a 4-press oil plant at the Fedchenko station, and added another press at the Namangan plant [8: 237-p].

It should be mentioned that the Germans were more involved in Turkestan and Fergana's social life. In Turkestan, the majority of Germans in the Russian Empire served in administrative and military positions: K.P. von Kaufman and N.O. Rosenbach in 1884-1889, V.E. Flug in 1913-1914, and F.V. Martson in 1914-1915. An example is Major-General A. Heskett, who was the military governor of Samarkand region in 1905-1906 [1: 7-p]. In the Fergana Valley, German workers, despite their shortcomings, worked in areas necessary for public life. According to the 1897 data, lathes and locksmiths employed more than 40 people, 33 in construction and repair work, about 50 in railways, 14 in waterways, 140 in service and daily work, and mail, 14 people were employed by telegraph and telephone [7:32 p]. A great number of German scientists performed research in numerous disciplines of science and economics in the region. For example, V.V. Bartold, A.F. Middendorf, A.I. Vilkins (led the development of the cotton industry in Fergana in 1877-1879), R.R. Shreder (agronomist - the founder of the cotton variety "1306"), K. Gilev (mining engineer), G.G. Ottendorf (garden 'bon), in addition to the development of the Fergana geological and oil and gas industries – V.I. Veber, N.T. Lindtrop, L.A. Langer, L.A. Zindel, S.S. Shults, V.G. Kleinburg, M.N. Tramm, M.I. Brig, Y.P. Brune, T.A. Sikstel, R.F. Gekker [1: 16-b] contributed to the development of regional science.

If we look at their way of life, we can see a wide range of changes and increasing the population of the German in Uzbekistan between 1930 and 1990. During the period of collectivization and mass repression, the influx of Germans into the republic increased. The spread of the Germans to the national republics was due to the coming to power of the Nazi government in Germany in the 1930s, which resulted in the deportation of local Germans.

In 1936, 15,000 Germans and Poles were evacuated from the western regions and Ukraine [3: 167-p]. By 1939, the German population in Uzbekistan had reached 23,000 [3: 167-p]. In the period of strategic confrontation and complex political situation, of course, the cultural and social processes in the local republics did not stopped.

In 1934, in cooperation with the Central German Bureau, there were 13 German-language schools, 3 workers' clubs and a national library in Uzbekistan [3: 167-p]. During the Second World War and its aftermath, the policy of resettlement of peoples in different parts of Uzbekistan continued. Based on decisions No. 196 of January 6, 1942 "On the resettlement of the German population in the Tashkent and regional centers of the Uzbekistan SSR", No. 196 of October 7, 1942 "On the mobilization of the German people in the national economy" German workers' columns were organized. All able-bodied

Germans were mobilized. The only exceptions were women and children under 3 years of age.

In addition to German men who worked in all forms of hard labor, women were also later recruited [6: 906-p]. In 1948, special German immigrants were brought to Uzbekistan from the territory of Tajikistan, and in 1952 from the Urals and Kazakhstan in several echelons for the construction of industrial facilities, extraction of natural resources and minerals [3: 167-168-p]. According to a 1950 report on the People's Committee of Internal Affairs of the Uzbekistan SSR by A.Qobulov, 992 German women worked at the Vannovka station, the Tashkent Railways, and the Fergana oil refinery. According to it; 680 women worked in construction, 27 women in organizational brigades, and 370 women in auxiliary labor. Workers worked for 800 grams of bread and 2 times' hot meals per day [6: 907-908]. As of January 1, 1947, there were 1,329 German families (average population 3,863) in 10 regions of the Uzbekistan SSR. The largest number of families was 914 families in Samarkand region (2808 people), 153 families in Bukhara region (376 people), 60 families in Kashkadarya region (129 people), 40 families in Tashkent (154 people) [6: 907 -b]. As of January 1, 1953, the number of Germans in Uzbekistan SSR was 8,366, including 4,664 local Germans, 1,451 the relocated, 1,185 deportees, and 1,024 conscripts. and 42 others [6: 908-p]. 1,382 of them were located in Fergana region. In 1959, there were 18,000 Germans living in Uzbekistan. Between 1959 and 1970, the German population in Uzbekistan more than doubled, reaching 33,991. By the 1980s, Germany's population growth had slowed [6: 912-p]. The fundamental cause for this was the large-scale migration of Germans from the Soviet Union to Germany as a result of changes in Germany's political situation. 50,000 Germans emigrated from the USSR to Germany in 1988, 100,000 Germans in 1989, and 150,000 Germans in 1990 [3: 905-p]. After the independence of Uzbekistan, all peoples and nations of our country have been provided with free conditions to fulfill their national values, religions and traditions. The encyclopedia of our state legally reflects the national freedom of each nation. The German nation has its own place among the more than 130 nations that live in our country. The "Wiedergeburt" Society, founded by the Fergana Regional People's Soviet on February 14, 1990, was a tangible result of the work done to preserve and enhance the national values of the German people in our country. In the year 2000, Uzbekistan had 7,838 Germans living there.

Thus, for more than a hundred years, the German people have been residing side by side with our people in our country. Although in the following years, as a result of the unification of Germany, many citizens of German descent emigrated to their homeland, the traces they left did not disappear completely. The teaching of German as a foreign language in regional schools is a clear example of this.

#### **The number of Germans living in Uzbekistan in different years:**

Years	The number of population
1877	17
1926	4 646
1939	23 000
1979	39 517
1989	39 809
1998	38 908
2000	7 838

[Based on references]

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