



Military-Administrative System Introduction in Fergana Region: Volost Government System

Shakhlo Khusanova Artikaliyeva

*Basic doctoral student of Andijan state university,
turon95@mail.ru, phone: +998 90 548 21 27*

ABSTRACT

The article describes the political, socio-economic processes during the colonial period of the Russian Empire on the example of Fergana region. In particular, Fergana region formation, the colonial management system introduction, administrative activities and its colonial nature were analyzed on the basis of new archival documents and other sources. The volost management system in Fergana region, the volost chiefs electing system and its colonial significance were discussed on the example of Mingtepa volost.

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Introduction

During the independence years, significant work has been done to study and analyze our past history. The events that are not objectively covered at different periods and history stages of Uzbekistan are being studied critically today. One of such topical issues in our history is the administrative and military management system in Turkestan provinces and volosts during the colonial period of the Russian Empire and its colonial nature. In particular, the tsarist Russia introduction in Fergana region, the volosts' heads electing process are important in full colonial policy disclosure of the Russian Empire in Turkestan.

Literature review:

Research and works on colonial period history of the Russian Empire can be divided into several groups and analyzed. Historians and researchers who have covered Turkestan history in the late 19th and early 20th centuries have assessed this period in interests and needs of the time in which they lived and the system, and drew conclusions about it. Authors of the Russian Empire period K.K. Abaza [1], A. Ivanov, M.M. Terentev [2] and others in their works, tried to show the "glory" of the

Russian state to the world, calling this policy a "historical necessity" that "saved from savagery" and "liberated from medieval backwardness."

There are also valuable scientific collections, memoirs, archival documents and other sources related to this period. In particular, the reports of senator, special adviser F.K. Girs [9], Count K.K. Palen [10], who inspected Turkestan region, contain information about the political, economic and social processes in the country.

Although, soviet historians N.A. Khalfin [3], Z.D. Kastelskaya [4], A.P. Savitsky [5] and others, in a sense, condemned the Tsarist colonial regime, tried to use the term "occupation" instead of "occupation" in the Russian Empire's conquest of Turkestan and those who tried to prove that it had led to positive change, that it had liberated the people from backwardness.

During the independence years, the Tsarist colonial period history, which was not objectively and fairly covered during the Soviet era, began to be studied systematically. Uzbek scientists Kh.Z.Ziyoev [6], D.Kh.Ziyoeva, N.A.Abdurakhimova [7], R.T.Shamsutdinov [8], J.Rakhimov, M.Khasani and other scientists studied this period history on the basis of primary sources and created important works. Their scientific research covers the tragic life of the people during the Tsarist colonial regime, the people's actions against colonial oppression, the military management system of the dictatorial regime, its colonial essence.

In order to illustrate the military rule system essence introduced during the Russian Empire on the example of Fergana region, there were used I-19 Fund documents of the National Uzbekistan Archives (Fergana Regional Administration), I-23 Fund (Margilan District Administration), as well as the works of local historians Mukhammad Aziz Margilani [11], Ishakhon Ibrat [12], who wrote works on the history of the Fergana Valley during the Tsarist Empire.

Research Methodology:

The article covers the political, economic, social situation in the Tsarist period on the basis of scientific, memoirs, some unexplored archival documents and sources on the example of Fergana region on the basis of comparative and logical analysis, historical and sequence of historical methods, Fergana region formation, the governance system introduction and their colonial nature.

Analysis and results:

Taking advantage of the political fragmentation in the Central Asian kingdoms, the Russian Empire managed to turn this country, which had a long-standing dream, with innumerable natural resources, into its colony. By the second half of the XIX century, a deep political and economic crisis had arisen in the Kokand Khanate. Taking this advantage, the empire soon succeeded in annexing the khanate to the empire.

On February 15, 1876, the Russian general Kolpakovsky entered Kokand city and announced the end of the khanate to all Kokand people. "All Kokand residents, whether nomads or settlers, will be included in the Russian government. Kokand Khanate was incorporated into the Russian Empire under the name of Fergana region"[1. 1-3 p]. On February 19, 1876, the Minister of War D.Milyutin announces Kokand Khanate dissolution and Fergana region establishment in its place. On the same day, General Skobelev will be appointed military governor of Fergana region.

After Fergana region formation, the colonialists began to define the territorial boundaries of the region. The region area was 86,130 square kilometers, and most of the region was occupied by the Pamir mountain range. Fergana region occupied 37 and 42 north latitudes and 39.5 and 44.5 east longitudes along the Pulkovsky meridian. [13.1-p].

Territorially, Fergana region is divided into three regions: 1) mountain range region 2) mountains and mountain slopes inhabited by nomads 3) the plains inhabited by the main settlements.

The colonialists divided the province territory into counties as they wished, ignoring local folk customs and ancient traditional territorial divisions. The region was originally divided into six districts: Margilan, Andijan, Namangan, Kokand, Chimgan, Osh. By 1881, Chimgan district was annexed to Kokand and Margilan districts. The districts were divided into volosts and villages. There were a total 91 volosts and 613 villages in Fergana region [14.10-p]

The center of Fergana region was originally Kokand city. Later, on April 19, 1878, by the order of the governor-general of Turkestan, the military administration of Fergana region was moved to New Margilan city.

Margilan district was the second largest in the region after Kokand district. "He added to the number of cities and villages in Margilan and wrote his name in the notebook as Margilan district. He appointed him a governor and sent him to Margilan." [11.42-6] Margilan district includes Oltiariq, Ichkilik, Kuva, Kokand, Koratepa, Chovkent, Kulla, Margilan, Naiman, Segaza, Fayziabad, Chimgan, Shakhrikhan, Yakkatut, Yazyovan, Boston volosts, Mingtepa (now Andijan region) and Markhamat. [2.120-p].

When the Tsarist administration formed Fergana region, it began to establish its own sharply militarized government system there. A regional system, district and precinct governance has been introduced, in which only European officials are appointed. However, the volost management system was different, with its leaders elected from among the local people. In Turkestan, a local government system based on the whole empire interests was introduced. It was as if the Russian Empire intended to further strengthen its colonial policy by "granting the right to freedom" in the eyes of the people through "self-government" and "granting the right to vote."

On the basis of the "Provisional regulations" on the regions management, adopted in 1876, the governor-general of Turkestan implemented the local government system in one stage for the settled population and two stages for the nomadic population. Exact numbers were adopted in the volosts organization. For the settled population, 1,000 to 2,000 people were grouped into volosts, and 100-200 nomadic people were grouped into auls. The local government organization through elections was the basis of the tsarist government's colonial policy, which was based on great economic interests. "The "right to vote" was, according to the colonialists, a seemingly vivid manifestation of population self-government, which defined the population account behind the political curtain [3.4-p] This led to an increase in taxes and levies. The colonialists stressed that the population itself should not be aware of this, i.e. that they should see the increase in taxes as their superiors work, i.e. that they should think of it as the Russian government kindness to the people" [4.6-p].

The volost head was elected by the volost congress for three years. The Volost Congress elected two candidates for the volost chief post - the volost chief and his assistant [15. 661-p].

The military governor reviewed both candidates and confirmed the election results. The election of the head of volost was carried out in two stages. Initially, ellikbashi (fifty leaders) were elected through a village assembly. Then, at the volost congress, a volost governor was elected with ellikbashi participation (fifty leaders). The Volost Congress was chaired by the county chief or his assistant. Elections were held only if 2/3 of the voters took part. The election was held by secret ballot [7.3-7 p].

The head of the volost is assigned to the volost congress to elect people's judges and their candidates, set monthly salaries for officials of lower administrations, inspect inspections, control the condition of roads, facilities, manage water use and water supply. [16.63-p]

In addition to farm work, the volost chief also served as a police officer. That is, they were tasked with ensuring the population peace, investigating criminals, and communicating the colonialism

laws to the people. In an open letter from the Governor-General of Turkestan to the military governor of the empire on February 18, 1905, he stated that "the Russian government will have volost chiefs and village elders not only local chiefs, but also small volost and village police officers"[5. 126-p]

The senator who inspected Turkestan region, Count K.K. Palen, wrote "the Russian government system made friends with the rich and the sultans, not with all population segments, but with the rich and the sultans, in order to create opportunities for them"[10.47-p].

The introduction of a colonial rule system in the volosts was essentially done in the Russia interests. During the electoral system review in the volosts, the people interests were not taken into account in the management system of Mingtepa volost, which is part of the Margilan district. Or, we can see that for trivial reasons, volost chiefs were fired and various punishments were applied.

Abdukakhkhor Mirzo was first elected to Mingtepa volost. And yet, the king of Mingtepa, Mirza Dodkhokh, was slaughtered by Foladkhan, saying, "You have written a letter to the Russians." Abdukakhkhor Mirzo, the son of this makhtul, said: "I could not take revenge on my father by holding Foladkhan"... While Foladkhan was lying alone and hungry in the mountains, Abdukakhkhor Mirzo heard from some Kyrgyz, got permission from the Russians, accompanied by 5-10 people, captured Foladkhan and handed him over to General Skobelev. For this he made himself a captain in Mingtepa."[11.39-p]. Abdukakhkhor was later elected head of Kulla volost. The reason is that Abdukakhkhor Mirzo is accused of forcibly collecting taxes from the population when he was the head of the volost. The people, full of patience, turned to Dukchi Eshan, who was highly respected among the people at that time. Dukchi Eshan had good relations with Russian officials. He asks the Russian authorities to dismiss Abdukakhkhor Mirza. However, Abdukakhkhor Mirza was elected head of Kulla volost because he served the Russians well. Kyrgyz Egamberdi Akhmadbaev from Osh district will be elected to Mingtepa volost. [7.1-p]

Until 1898, Egamberdi Akhmadbaev was the head of the volost. However, after Andijan uprising of 1898, he became frightened and committed suicide. Because in the Russian colonial policy, whether an official or an ordinary citizen, he would be punished if he was involved in an event against the empire interests... Egamberdi Akhmadbaev will be replaced by Abdukakhkhor Shokhmirza Dodkhaev, former head of Mingtepa volost, on the recommendation of the head of Margilan district. At that time, General Chaikovsky was appointed to replace Povalo-Shveykovsky, the military governor of Fergana region, who had been fired due to the uprising. He opposes Abdukakhkhor Mirza appointment as the head of Mingtepa volost. Then, when he learns that his relationship with Dukchi Eshan was bad and that he had nothing to do with the uprising, he agrees to Abdukakhkhor become the head of the volost[7.2-B].

Abdukakhkhor Shokhmirza Dodkhaev ruled Mingtepa volost until 1900. In a report released on April 18 this year, he noted that his health had deteriorated and that his leg and arm were sore. He writes an application for dismissal on the same grounds. Akhmad Mukhammadbaev, the head of Kulla volost, will be appointed as the interim head of Margilan district[8.4-p].

In 1901 there was an election for the post of chief of Mingtepa volost. Otakhan Korimarozikov, the head of Yazyovan volost, who received 380 out of 436 votes, will be elected head of Mingtepa volost. According to the information about him, Otakhon Qorimarozikov will be elected to this position because he has 50 tanap land and 200 soums[9.3-p]

The colonialists tried to collect the people wealth as a tax at the hands of the volost chiefs. The colonialists, who wanted to make a profit in any way, increased the amount of taxes from year to year, regardless of the people living conditions. Seeing this, local officials, realizing that their people were being oppressed, wrote petitions to higher organizations to reduce taxes. However, Tsarist officials

blamed local officials for such actions, inciting them to popular hatred and persecuting them. On November 11, 1882, Dadakhoja Amin, a resident of Bobokhuroson village, Mingtepa volost, addressed the head of the district with the following application: “In 1882, while I was in charge of Amin, an order came to collect additional taxes from the merchants. However, seeing their condition, I learned that they could not pay taxes. When I reported this situation to the county chief, he gave me an order and permission to collect taxes from the judges congress. Only then will half the population pay taxes. But, the rest blamed me and tried to kill me. I fled to Korategin, where I am now. I ask you to allow me to put you in my position”[10.56-p].

From the above it can be seen that the Russian officials who watched the people against their local officials wanted to see the local population become poor and enslaved by the Russians.

Conclusion/Recommendations:

In short, the Russian invaders worked in a consistent direction to eradicate the national statehood traditions in the country and to introduce the governance method in the order they wanted.

The colonialists placed great emphasis on this rich land development, putting Russian interests above all else. Extensive opportunities have been created for all Russian officials. The 5-year service of a Russian official in any position is counted here as 7 years. The Russian official was paid an additional annual salary 20% for 5 years of service and 40% for 10 years [11.6-p] This additional payment was made at the expense of taxes and levies levied on the people. The colonialists blamed the local officials, i.e. the volost and village elders, for the increase in taxes, making them hated by the people. The basis of these reforms was the further strengthening of colonial policy.

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