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Goals Of The Russian Empire Against The Invasion In Central Asia

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ABSTRACT

Studying history, we see that the political practices and methods of government used by countries have their own characteristics. The article examines the intentions of the Russian Empire to invade Central Asia.

KEYWORDS

History, Russian Empire, Central Asia, politics and diplomacy.

INTRODUCTION

In November 1867, K.P. Kaufman sent an embassy to Kokand to conclude a trade agreement, which was signed in March 1868. According to its terms, a constant duty of 2.5% was established on goods imported from both sides. Russian merchants in the khanate and

Kokand merchants in Russia were provided with a free stay and the organization of caravanserais. With the equal nature of the treaty, the Kokand Khanate, surrounded by tsarist troops, practically fell under the control of Russia.

The Russian government still had no intention of incorporating the Central Asian states into the empire. During this period, the regional market was of paramount importance for Russia. Central Asia was an important market for Russian industrial products, especially iron products, cotton fabrics, and sugar. Cotton, silk products, dyes came from the region to Russia. Central Asia opened the door for Russia's trade ties with Afghanistan, India, Iran, China.

The signing of the new treaty summed up certain results in the history of Russian-Bukhara relations in the second half of the 19th century. After his conclusion, the Bukhara Emirate, while maintaining internal autonomy and the former administrative system of government, lost the right to an independent foreign policy.

Russia's last dash to the south, aimed at conquering Turkmenistan, was conceived as Russia's revenge over Britain for the defeat at the Berlin Congress of 1878, which rewrote the successful results of the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-1878. The revenge consisted in bringing the Russian possessions in Central Asia to such borders from which the Indian possessions of Great Britain could be seriously threatened. The Turkmen tribes that inhabited the Akhal-Teke oasis refused to submit to Russian rule. In 1879, the combined forces of the militia of the Teke-Turkmen tribal union unexpectedly inflicted a major defeat on the Russian troops at the Geok-Tepe fort.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The accession of Turkmenistan to Russia in the 80s of the 19th century ended a long stage in Russia's policy towards Central Asia, aimed at strengthening its influence in the region. The territories annexed to Russia became part of

the Turkestan, Steppe and West Siberian governorates. All power in the annexed territories passed into the hands of the governor-general. The administrative and economic policies of Russia were aimed at the gradual alignment of the level of development of Central Asia with the rest of the empire.

The Russian government, interested in revitalizing economic ties, encouraged the development of local industry and trade. The establishment of a strong government eliminated civil strife in the region. The elimination of feudal fragmentation created conditions for the integration of certain regions of Central Asia into a full-fledged region. The process of capitalist development began, and the domestic market expanded. Since the 80s, the construction of railways began linking Central Russia with Central Asia.

The annexation of Central Asia was not just a desire for expansion, under any circumstances. Let's remember that almost simultaneously with the main conquests in the region, Russia sold Alaska for a symbolic price. From this we can conclude that the annexation of the Central Asian territories was dictated not by the desire for simple mechanical expansion, but was determined by completely different reasons.

The first was a geopolitical reason, which demanded an early exit to natural geographical boundaries to prevent penetration into the UK region. Russia's defeat in the Crimean War, British actions in Afghanistan, pressure on Russia in Europe, and finally, the change in the terms of the San Stefano Peace Treaty, forced Russia to move to more and more active actions in the region. At the same time, it was possible to reach such positions from which it was possible to

threaten the British possessions in Asia. It is no coincidence that after the conquests, Great Britain began to lean from attacks and pressure to the division of spheres of influence and the conclusion of an allied agreement, which happened in St. Petersburg in 1907.

The second group of reasons can be considered economic reasons. Here the interests of Russian industry and trade dominated, seeking direct access to the markets of Central Asia, as well as of Iran, Afghanistan, India and China, for the existing routes of caravan trade ceased to satisfy growing demands due to extreme unreliability, significant financial costs and time spent on carrying out operations. In addition, the rapid growth of light industry, caused by the bourgeois reforms of Alexander II, required an increase in the supply of raw materials, primarily cotton for textile enterprises in the central industrial region.

The third group of reasons is related to the security of the southern borders and Russian subjects, especially the nomadic Kazakhs, who were constantly target of the attack and prey for the slave trade by the militant Central Asian khanates. After the abolition of serfdom in Russia, it strove to eliminate slavery in all the surrounding territories. I would like to end this section with the opinion of the French historian E. Oman, a contemporary of the events described. He believed that “despite the turmoil and oppression that are inevitable in any conquest, especially in its initial stage, the natives have already won in some way and will gain even more in the future under Russian rule, which freed them from their Turkmen tyrants; even where the khans still exist - in Khiva, in Bukhara - their power is limited. The barbaric tortures of the old time

have disappeared; the famous "flophouses", into which the Bukhara khans ordered to throw the victims of their short massacre, are an archaeological rarity.

The wars between the khans, revolts and plundering raids of the Turkmens who plundered in native or Iranian villages, as well as the hunt for slaves, also ceased. The conquerors added others to these first benefits of the "Russian world". The Trans-Caspian Railway, the case of General Annenkov, now extended north to Tashkent, east to Novy Margelan and south to Kushka, connected the oases and gave them the opportunity to export their products to Russia. The most important product to date is cotton; for several years, its export increased tenfold thanks to the railroad and the import of American cotton ginning machines and new, more diverse fruitful varieties of seeds by the Russians into the country.

CONCLUSION

The cultivation of other crops has also increased - grapes and tobacco. The area of cultivated land has increased due to the construction of dams and the alteration of irrigation canals. Other major works are planned: irrigation of the Mirza-Raba desert near Tashkent with the waters of the Syr Darya, bringing the banks of the Amu Darya to good condition, digging a canal from the Amu Darya to Bukhara, expanding the area of crops in the Zeravshan valley, building dams in Merv, etc. One would think the works will return the country the wealth that it used in the Middle Ages before the invasion of the Turks, and will tie it to the power that returned it peace and security."

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