



## From The History Of Migration Of The Population Of East Turkestan In The XIX Century To The Governor-General Of Turkestan

Dilshodbek Urakov

Associate Professor, PhD., National University of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

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### ABSTRACT

This article discusses the history of migration of the population of East Turkestan in the XIX century to the Governor-General of Turkestan. Since the late 19th century, Xinjiang has been heavily dependent on interaction with its western neighbor, the Russian Empire. Russia acted as the main buyer of nuts, raisins, livestock, raw silk, tobacco, and itself supplied finished industrial goods to the western edge of China. Therefore, the Russian Empire attached great importance to Xinjiang.

### KEYWORDS

East Turkestan, Russian Empire, China, Xinjiang.

### INTRODUCTION

Famous researchers of this region, such as Ch. Ch. Valikhanov, General A.E. Snesev, V.V. Grigoriev to some extent revealed information

about this remote area to the world community[1]<sup>1</sup>; ; moreover, the tsarist

<sup>1</sup> Zotov O.V. East Turkestan (Xinjiang): on the scales of history and geopolitics // Vostok. 2009.No 2. - p. 126

government attached great importance to it. It is not surprising that Xinjiang played an important role in the history of the regions bordering with it in Central Asia, and, consequently, in the entire Russian Empire.

### THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

1860-1870s, civil strife and uprisings began in Chinese Turkestan. Muslim Turks and Dungans revolted against the weakened Qing and each other - and many, fleeing from the Chinese troops, moved to Russian territory. The emirate of Yakub-bek (Yettishar) arose and strengthened in Kashgar. But the victorious campaign of General Zuo Zongtang drowned Muslim autonomy in Xinjiang in blood, and thousands of Dungans with the Uighurs were forced to flee to Russia - someone went to the Fergana Valley, someone to the cities of Semirechye.

The Russians, taking advantage of the absence of natural barriers in the form of mountains, occupied the Ili region, a strategically important part of the region connecting Kashgaria with Dzungaria. The initiative to seize the region came from the local authorities - the Turkestan governor-general von Kaufman and the military governor of Semirechye Kolpakovsky. Petersburg did not really want to risk a war with China and, most importantly, the termination of profitable trade with the Celestial Empire. As a result, the annexed territories were under his direct control.

On Russian territory, there were many Dungans and taranchs (Ili Uighurs), the resettlement of which the tsarist government in every possible way favored. Their economy was still focused on Xinjiang, separated from the Semirechye by an increasingly solid and well-guarded border. This is how a full-fledged cross-border economy emerged in the region.

Many Dungans did not want to live in the Tokmak and Przhevalsk allotted for them, fled to the Ili valley and beyond the cordon, where they raided the Chinese. Many robbed and stole in Russia, so much so that more than half of the prisoners in local prisons were Dungans. Over time, they resigned themselves to their new life and justified the hopes placed on them by the authorities - they were the first in Semirechye who began to grow rice, export it to Kuldja, and vegetables and wheat to the Ili region.

Thus, from the second half of the 19th century, the peoples of East Turkestan began to migrate to two regions of Central Asia, the Ettisuv region and the Fergana Valley, to escape the oppression of the Chinese Manchus. The East Turkestans (Kyrgyz, Kazakhs, Dungans, Uzbeks) who took part in many other uprisings fled to the territories of Tsarist Russia between 1876 and 1884.

According to GB Nikolskaya, as a result of the uprisings against the rule of the Qing Empire, East Turkestan was dominated by feudal oppression, exploitation, slavery and the slave trade, as well as military conflicts between the Kokand Khanate and China, other political events in Central Asia in the late 18th and 19th centuries. In the first half of the century, between 85,000 and 100,000 Uyghurs voluntarily migrated to Central Asia. In addition, those who took part in the uprisings against the Chinese government and their family members fled to the Fergana region between 1877 and 1878.

As noted above, these circumstances largely predetermined the places of temporary residence of the Dungan migrants, as well as the permanent settling of some of them in the Central Asian-Kazakh region. To the above, it should also be added that the Russian authorities in Turkestan were not ready to

accept and accommodate such an unexpected arrival and such a significant mass of immigrants from the neighboring state. In addition, there were practically no land free for agriculture, provided with water sources[2] <sup>2</sup>.

And yet, the Russian state and its Turkestan administration, as well as the Kyrgyz, Kazakh and Uzbek populations and the resettled Russian peasantry, accepted these disadvantaged newcomers, neither Bai Yan-hu nor other leaders of the Dungan rebels against the massacre of the Qing military, despite the threatening demands of the Manchu generals, who were then persistently supported by Chinese diplomats in St. Petersburg[3] <sup>3</sup>.

However, the suppression and defeat of the uprisings that had taken place over the years had exacerbated the socio-political situation in the country, exacerbating the violence of the Chinese-Manchus. The Uyghurs, who came to the valley to escape the oppression of the Chinese government's military, told us about the experiences of their forefathers. According to reports, there was nothing left of the Chinese repression of the people of the province, and Chinese soldiers raided the homes of Uighurs and confiscated their clothes, utensils, pillows, and even food from their homes. The protesters were quickly taken into custody, missing from custody. Hence, it is clear that the Chinese government's dissatisfaction with the government's excessive tax increases and its policy of plundering the Muslim peoples has led to the relocation of East Turkestans to the valley sides.

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<sup>2</sup> V.G. Liu Ethnic and cultural ideology of the Dungans in a multiethnic environment // Bulletin of the Nizhnevolzhsky agro-university complex. M 3 (3) 2006.

<sup>3</sup> V.G. Liu Ethnic and cultural ideology of the Dungans in a multiethnic environment // Bulletin of

The voluntary resettlement of the Dungans, who were fleeing the punitive operations of the Qin army and physical extermination on the territory of modern Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in the second half of the 19th century, was of great historical importance for the Dungan people, who found their second home here. Thanks to their hard work and enterprise, as well as the support and assistance of the Russian, Kyrgyz, Kazakh and other peoples of the Turkestan Territory, the Dungans in a short time established their own settlements, mosques, organized agricultural production, developed crafts and trade. The main activity of the Dungans was agriculture. They cultivated new crops such as baysai (Chinese cabbage), onions, garlic, paprika, eggplant, radish, carrots, anise, kohlrabi, pumpkin, cucumbers, celery (pintsai), jiutsai, and melons. The Dungans mastered and irrigated significant lands in the Pishpek district, the village of Milianfan, which in Russian means "Rice Valley", was founded, as well as the village of Aleksandrovka, where mainly the Dungan population live compactly[4] <sup>4</sup>.

The migration of Uyghurs to the Fergana Valley was not a natural migration process, but was related to political events in East Turkestan and was often carried out under the auspices of the rulers. According to the sources, the Uyghurs came to the Fergana Valley in the past, sometimes for trade and medical work.

East Turkestans, mostly men, came to the Fergana Valley in the spring in search of seasonal work and went home in late autumn

the Nizhnevolzhsky agro-university complex. M 3 (3) 2006.

<sup>4</sup> V.G. Liu Ethnic and cultural ideology of the Dungans in a multiethnic environment // Bulletin of the Nizhnevolzhsky agro-university complex. M 3 (3) 2006.

to save money. Kashgar laborers did various jobs and were sometimes hired for day jobs. Many laborers worked in the cotton fields. Their wages in Kashgar were several times higher than their wages, and they had to feed the whole family.

The peoples of East Turkestan are not called by a single name. Therefore, determining the number of East Turkestans who migrated to the Fergana Valley is somewhat confusing. In some cases, she says, the Uyghurs (Kashgarians) who migrated to Zakharov were dispersed in search of new lands. Not all refugees from East Turkestan were Uighurs, but there were Kyrgyz, Kazakhs, Anjans (Uzbeks) and other ethnic groups living in East Turkestan.

Even before the conquest of Central Asia by Tsarist Russia, the flow of Uyghur refugees from Kashgar and Ili had not stopped. Clashes between the Muslim population and Chinese troops are escalating, leading to a larger influx of refugees from East Turkestan. From the north-western and north-eastern parts of East Turkestan there are also roads that are constantly moving towards the Ettisuv region and the Fergana Valley.

The Petersburg Treaty of 1881 for the inhabitants of the Ili region provided for the choice of Chinese or Russian citizenship. The bulk of the population, given the 10-year experience of exemplary Russian rule, under which the Ili region developed successfully, decided to move to the Russian Empire. The resettlement of the Uighurs and Dungans in Semirechye began in the fall of 1881 and continued until 1884. For more than 45,000 Uyghurs and 5,000 Dungans who left their native lands, the Semirechensky Territory and

Northern Kyrgyzstan became a new habitat[5]<sup>5</sup>.

In Semirechye, the Dungans and Uighurs settled next to the Kazakhs, Russians and Ukrainians. On the territory of the current Almaty and Taldykorgan regions, the Uighurs organized 6 volosts: Zharkent, Akkent, Aksu-Charyn, Malybaev, Kuramin and Karasu. They also settled in other volosts of the Vernensky district. The Uighurs mainly concentrated in the valleys of the Shelek (Chilik), Talgar, Usen and Sharyn rivers, convenient for agriculture. With the settlement of the Uighurs and Dungans in the province, the number of sedentary residents has increased markedly. According to the 1897 census, there were about 14,136 Dungans and 55,999 Uyghurs in the Russian Empire[6]<sup>6</sup>.

Certain parts of those who migrated to the Seven Lands moved to the Fergana Valley for many reasons, such as the severity of the conditions there and the lack of land.

The settlers were offered land in the valleys of the Zailiyskiy and Dzhungarskiy Alatau rivers. But, nevertheless, the majority were accommodated in the non-irrigated part of the Chilik, Illy and Turgen rivers, where they had to build irrigation systems themselves. Due to the fact that the taranci were resettled in entire villages, their settlements looked compact. Each farm received a land plot of 10 acres for cultivation, but due to lack of water they were able to cultivate only a part of their plots: without irrigation, the use of land became impossible. According to the data of 1897, 55

<sup>5</sup> Resettlement of Uighurs and Dungans in Semirechye // <https://tak-to-ent.net/publ/10-1-0-270>

<sup>6</sup> Resettlement of Uighurs and Dungans in Semirechye // <https://tak-to-ent.net/publ/10-1-0-270>

815 Uighurs and 15 276 Dungans lived in Semirechye[7] <sup>7</sup>.

At the end of the 19th century, 5,000 to 6,500 traders and doctors came to the Syrdarya and Tashkent regions of Turkestan for trade and medical purposes, and more than 3,000 to 4,000 to Fergana. It is also known that such doctors and traders came to Fergana in the past and lived there permanently. Despite the severity of the political, economic and social situation, in the early years of the twentieth century, the number of East Turkestans migrating to Turkestan (west) increased from year to year.

If from 1896 to 1900 about 14,000 people received visas to visit the Russian consulate in Kashgar to visit Turkestan, between 1901 and 1905 the consulate issued 42,964 such permits.

In 1901, more than 5,200, in 1902, 5,250, in 1903, 5202, in 1904, 14,000, and from 1905, about 13,330 people came to East Turkestan in search of seasonal work. During these years, a total of 43,000 East Turkestan residents come to Fergana. During the first twenty years of the twentieth century, more than 55,000 Kashgars lived in the Fergana Valley, and in the course of subsequent migrations, hundreds of thousands of other job seekers joined.

## CONCLUSION

The fleeing Uyghur migrants entered the Fergana Valley in 12-15 days, mainly through the Terek, Ergashtom and Santosh passes. On the 18th he arrived in Kokand. It is especially convenient to reach Osh and Andijan through the Terek Pass, the total length of the pass is 937 km. This road was covered by trade

caravans and the military in 15-20 days. As the pass was very cold, the refugee refugees quickly crossed the road and arrived at the destination. Uighur migrants who fled during the winter months faced severe difficulties. Many refugees perished from starvation and cold. At such times the pass was filled with the dead of the people.

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<sup>7</sup> Baratova, G.S. Formation of the Uyghur and Dungan Diasporas .. History of Kazakhstan. Peoples and cultures. Almaty: Dyk-press, 2001, - S. 121.

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