

Impact Factor:

ISRA (India) = 4.971
ISI (Dubai, UAE) = 0.829
GIF (Australia) = 0.564
JIF = 1.500

SIS (USA) = 0.912
PIHHI (Russia) = 0.126
ESJI (KZ) = 8.716
SJIF (Morocco) = 5.667

ICV (Poland) = 6.630
PIF (India) = 1.940
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: 2020 Issue: 05 Volume: 85

Published: 18.05.2020 <http://T-Science.org>

QR – Issue



QR – Article



Z.A. Saidboboev

National University of Uzbekistan

PhD, professor

RUSSIAN EMPIRE ON THE STUDY OF CENTRAL ASIA: HISTORICAL-GEOGRAPHIC AND CARTOGRAPHIC ASPECTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE XIX CENTURY

Abstract: The article is devoted to the problems of Russian historical-geographic and cartographic sources about Central Asia on the first half of XIX century. On the base of some historical-geographic and cartographic source are analyzed the main directions on this period. Also are shown the scientific works on this theme, reasons of the beginning the new scientific research in this region.

Key words: Central Asia, history, cartographic.

Language: English

Citation: Saidboboev, Z. A. (2020). Russian empire on the study of Central Asia: historical-geographic and cartographic aspects in the first half of the XIX century. *ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science*, 05 (85), 251-253.

Soi: <http://s-o-i.org/1.1/TAS-05-85-50> **Doi:**  <https://dx.doi.org/10.15863/TAS.2020.05.85.50>

Scopus ASCC: 1202.

Introduction

Extensive cartographic work in the Russian state began in the late 20th years of XVII century, after a catastrophic fire in Moscow in 1626. As a result of the fire, the archive, where many office papers and a number of decisions are stored, was severely damaged.

Information about Central Asia, collected until the end of the XVI century, was reflected in the first geographical-cartographic document – “Kniga Bolshomu Cherteju”. It was compiled as an atlas of the late seventeenth century, the Bolshoi Chertezh, and in 1627 as an appendix to the “steppes” maps of the southern part of the Russian state.

The “New Drawing” of the Moscow State in 1627 is a copy of the “old drawing” of the Moscow State, and only the “steppe” drawing is referred to as “another” second drawing. In other words, in order to distinguish the “Old Drawing” of the Moscow state from the “steppes”, it was called the “Old Drawing”.

So, the data in these facts can be the basis for our conclusion that the Book of the Old Drawing is based on two maps and a drawing of the Moscow state at the end of the XVI century.

It was originally recommended as an official document for government agencies and “various practitioners” and has been used for this purpose

throughout the seventeenth century¹. Relations between Russia and Central Asia have developed since ancient times. From the 10th century, a trade route began to form through the Ustyurt plateau, where fortresses and caravanserais were built along this road to establish mutually beneficial trade relations between the two regions. Coins found in Russia and the countries of the Baltic Sea region have become strong evidence of active trade relations. Supporters of Russia's trade and economic development interested in further developing mutually beneficial relations have shown interest in accumulating more information about the Central Asia region.

Materials and methods

During numerous expeditions organized by Russian merchants, ambassadors, travelers and researchers, additional information was collected about this region. Many of the information was historical, geographical, statistical and economic in nature. Among the facts and information collected, articles, various kinds of reports, and also graphic cards occupied a special place.

At the end of the XVIII century, in particular, in 1799 the Depot of Maps was created. The purpose of this archive and the agency for publishing maps and

Impact Factor:

ISRA (India)	= 4.971	SIS (USA)	= 0.912	ICV (Poland)	= 6.630
ISI (Dubai, UAE)	= 0.829	PIHHI (Russia)	= 0.126	PIF (India)	= 1.940
GIF (Australia)	= 0.564	ESJI (KZ)	= 8.716	IBI (India)	= 4.260
JIF	= 1.500	SJIF (Morocco)	= 5.667	OAJI (USA)	= 0.350

surveys was to print and store military topographic maps of Russia and the territory bordering the states of Central Asia. In 1812, the Carte Depot was renamed the Military Topographic Depot. At that time, the scope of this body was expanded. The depot was subordinate to the War Ministry.

The Corps of Military Topographers was founded in 1822. The military academy trained specialists in topography, cartography and geodesy in order for future specialists to master the methods of professional cartographers and carry out high-level cartographic and research work.

In the 19th century, as economic relations developed in the Russian Empire, a need arose for new sales markets and raw material bases, especially agricultural raw materials. The textile industry in Russia needed cotton in Central Asia, and therefore the importance of this region as a sales market has increased. The Russian government showed interest in establishing mutually beneficial contacts with the states of Central Asia, and was looking for ways to strengthen trade and diplomatic relations.

An effective solution to military-political and economic problems required the search, collection, and processing of data on a region of a research nature. In accelerating this process, special attention was paid to topographic, geodetic and cartographic works.

Cartographers were sent to Central Asia to carry out the primary and necessary measures to accomplish the tasks set by the government of the empire. First of all, specialists had to create geographical maps containing complete information about the region.

Primary information on the southwestern and central parts of Central Asia are referred to Captain N.N. Muravyov. In 1819, it was decided to equip the expedition from Krasnovodsk to Khiva. N.N. Muravyov, who knew local languages, received instructions as the head of the expedition from General A.P. Ermolova. The main objectives of his mission were to establish trade relations with the Turkmen, and "open new trade routes to Khiva, Bukhara and South India" [4, p. 89].

Another purpose of this expedition was to find convenient fortifications and fortresses for the deployment of Russian troops, which would allow them to be used as a defense point from the Turkmen troops and a warehouse for storing food. In addition, they were intended for systematic trade relations of Russia with the tribes of the Turkmen and the Khiva Khanate [1, p. 69].

In order to obtain information N. Muravyov began his journey towards the Caspian Sea and visited its southeastern shores. Then he headed to Khiva, riding two camels. In 1822, he published the results of his research, which provided complete information about the nature of Central Asia. N. Muravyov describes in detail the Khiva Khanate and emphasizes that the city has a sewage system built by local builders. It also describes the natural resources and

minerals of this country. He listed such natural resources as lead, silver, gold and sulfur [6, p. 76].

The journey of N. Muravyov was not so large-scale, however, they were of great value for Russian science and were of interest to the state policy of Russia. He restored the forgotten roads covered by the sands of the Russians towards the Turkmen steppes after the unsuccessful military expedition of Bekovich-Cherkassky. N. Muravyov was the first to present a complete geographic map, information about the countries of Turkmen, the nomadic movements and the resettlement of this nomadic people. "The main result of his journey was the creation of a map illustrating the Turkmen desert and the territory of the Khiva Khanate" [5, p. 81].

The map indicated the route through Central Asia (the territory from Krasnovodsk to Khiva and from Khiva to the coast of the Caspian Sea), scaling is 1 inch and 5 German miles. It should be noted that 10 signs are indicated on the map (dry lake, cart, rings, villages, dry water pipes, etc.); In the Khiva khanate it was shown in the form of a diagram (water supply system, a shed, roads and other places to stay). However, there were some errors in measuring the direction, as they were determined according to the speed of the camel caravan (4 versts per hour). The total length was overpriced. Despite the difficulties, N. Muravyov managed to create a map. Valuable information in the compiled map is widely used in further research work.

In 1821, N. Muravyov made another trip to Central Asia. This time, he began his journey from Krasnovodsk to the Balkan Gulf, as a result of which he created a complete map of the region. This place was marked on the map of the Balkhan of the Turkmen Gulf. The bay is measured on a scale of 1 inch and 4 versts. As in the previous maps of N. Muravyov, a thermometer was not used in this study. The data on the map helped to correct previous mistakes made when creating old maps about the Caspian basin [7, p. 44].

From 1820 to 1821, a group of parliamentarians led by the Russian ambassador A. Negri were sent on a mission to Bukhara. Among the participants in this mission are mentioned the names of key employees, such as G.K. Meyendorf, V.D. Volkovsky K.A. Timofeev, historian - H. Pander and traveler - E.A. Eversman.

The expedition took its way to Orenburg and, passing through the Syr Darya, reached Bukhara and returned back along the same route, which amounted to 3000 versts [2, p. 66].

As a result of this expedition, a special route map was created and 5 astronomical points (including the coordinates of the city of Bukhara) were captured in it. In 1826, a map with all the detailed descriptions of C. Meyendorff was published in Paris. On the map with all accuracy indicated the Zarafshan river. It also perfectly indicates the route of Bukhara-Orenburg and

Impact Factor:

ISRA (India) = 4.971	SIS (USA) = 0.912	ICV (Poland) = 6.630
ISI (Dubai, UAE) = 0.829	PIHHI (Russia) = 0.126	PIF (India) = 1.940
GIF (Australia) = 0.564	ESJI (KZ) = 8.716	IBI (India) = 4.260
JIF = 1.500	SJIF (Morocco) = 5.667	OAJI (USA) = 0.350

Bukhara-Orsk. All incorrect data and information about “Kyzildarya” (“Kissel”) given in old maps were deleted. The low mountains of Kyzylkum (Kuldzhuktog, Urtatog, Arslontog, Anhydrous Black) were included and marked on the map. However, in the map of Meyendorff, the Sultanuvays Mountains are combined with the Bukantov and Tomditov Kyzylkum in a single whole and are named under the name “Kukertli”.

Book of K. Meyendorff [8] is appreciated by his contemporaries for providing rich information about the Bukhara Khanate, geography, population, economy and public administration of neighboring countries and territories, such as the Kokand Khanate, Balkh and Badakhshan. He was the first to inform and acquaint scientific circles of Europe with reliable information about the mentioned territories.

The most significant in terms of cartography is the expedition of Colonel F.F. Berg in the Ustyurt plateau committed by him in 1825 - 1826. The expedition, which explored the area between the Aral and Caspian seas with the exception of Ustyurt, was attended by E. Eversman, V.D. Volkhovsky, captain P.F. Anjou and Zagoskin. The expedition first carried out barometric leveling in Central Asia along the 45th parallel and determined a high level of water in the Aral Sea compared to the Caspian. The western shores of the Aral Sea were also recorded on the map.

On May 30, 1826, F. Berg presented and presented a report on the results of military intelligence in the form of a report to the Ministry in

French [3, p. 23]. Based on this report and as a result of topographic work and travels carried out in 1819 - 1826, it became known that the territory between Orenburg and Khiva is divided into 6 different natural and geographical zones.

The above areas were highly appreciated in terms of troop movement. In the report, the territory between the regions of Mangyshlak, Saraichik and Orenburg was noted as “the most convenient and suitable point of the campaign of troops against Khiva”.

Conclusion

The high pace of development of Russian industry in the 19th century led to increased interest in Central Asia. The development of trade and production gave impetus to the dynamic growth of relations with the states of Central Asia. Numerous expeditions organized by the Russian Empire and sent to distant lands are proof of this interest.

Since 1819, a number of travels and expeditions had clearly missionary character and military objectives. Such attempts and aspirations are considered as interference in the internal affairs of the Central Asian states. But on the other hand, new maps appeared, historical and geographical information as a result of complex scientific studies performed by European and Russian experts. It should be noted that they included information on more remote areas, villages of the Central Asia region and new information on various kinds of structures.

References:

1. Agayev, X., & Ekspeditsiya, N.N. (1957). Murav'yeva v Turkmeniyu i yeyo rol' v ukreplenii russko-turkmenskikh otnosheniy. *Izvestiya AN Turkmen, SSR*, № 6.
2. Gvozdetskiy, N.A., et al. (1964). *Russkiye geograficheskiye issledovaniya Kavkaza i Sredney Azii v XIX - nachale XX v.* Moscow: Nauka.
3. Gol'denberg, A.A. (1963). *Obzor dokumental'nykh materialov ekspeditsiy - gg., kak istochnika po istoriiyestestvoznaniya. V kn.: Pervoye russkiye nauchnyye issledovaniya Ustyurta.* Moscow: Izd-vo AN SSSR.
4. Grodekov, N.I. (1883). *Voyna s turkmenami.* SPb..
5. Mushketov, I.V. (1886). *Turkestan.* T. I. CH. I.-SPb..
6. (1882). *Puteshestviya v Turkmeniyu i Khivu v - gg. Gvardeyskogo General'nogo shtaba kapitana Nikolaya Murav'yeva, poslannogo v etu strany dlya peregovorov.* ChH. I, Moscow.
7. Shtaynberg, Ye.L. (1949). *Pervyye issledovateli Kaspiya (HVIII-HIH vv.).* Moscow.
8. Meyendorff, C. (1826). *Voyage d'Orenburg a Bouhara fait en.* Paris.