

DEVELOPMENT CRAFT MANUFACTURE IN THE TERRITORY OF CENTRAL ASIA

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ABSTRACT

The main aim of this article to give a brief explanation about the development of handicraft production in Central Asia. Because handicraft was important in the economic life of the cities of Central Asia.

KEYWORDS: Handicraft, Central Asia.

INTRODUCTION:

In the middle of the XVIII and first half of the XIX centuries, three states were located on the territory of Central Asia - the Bukhara emirate, the Kokand and Khiva khanates. As in other regions of the world, life in these states developed as usual. Civil wars held back, but could not stop the socio-economic and craft production development that inhabited these states. During this period, trade and economic ties between Central Asian states and many foreign countries as well as peoples of Europe and Asia continue to develop and expand.

Developed by the middle of the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries production methods impeded the development of productive forces and the development of the economy in rural areas of Central Asia. However, this state of affairs suited the rulers and was supported by the state. The states went bankrupt and collapsed due to continuous wars, abuse of power of officials and because of the struggle of rulers for power. This was the main reason for the stagnation in the economic life of Central Asia in the second half of the 19th century. Since the end of the 15th century, i.e. with the creation of the Ottoman Empire, which seized the Mediterranean ports, the loss of the significance of the Great Silk Road and the subsequent Great Geographical Discoveries, Central Asia was isolated from foreign markets. However, the states of Central Asia were increasingly drawn into world trade, which accelerated the development of commodity-money relations, contributed to the formation of the domestic market and led to an acceleration of the division of labor and the separation of the city from rural settlements.



Handicraft production was limited to the manufacture of household items, dishes, and clothes. In this regard, dyeing, tanning, candle, soap, oil and flour milling were widely developed. The exchange of goods between residents of settled settlements and pastoralists made some recovery in the economy. Residents of large craft centers supplied villagers with cotton and silk fabrics, clothes, chests, dishes, and jewelry. The villagers supplied the cities with carpets, ropes, bags, wool, hides of vegetables, fruits, etc. At that time, the production of woolen goods was most widespread. Carpets made of sheep or camel hair, and rugs were found in every dwelling, both among the nomadic and the settled population. Central Asia was surrounded on all sides by states, trade relations with which were difficult due to difficulties in delivering goods and robberies on the roads. However, foreign trade played a significant role in the life of the khanates. At this

time, constant trade was established with India, China, Persia (Iran), and Afghanistan, Russia, Arab states and Kazakh zhuzes. Most of the metal products were bought in Russia, and in return they sent cotton, wool and silk.

Since the beginning of the XIX century, Central Asia was gradually becoming for Russia one of the main sources of raw materials for the textile industry and a market for ready products. At the same time, the British East India Company was intensifying its activities, which sought to establish monopoly dominance in Central Asia and imported goods here at lower prices than other countries. A special committee was even approved in the House of Commons of Great Britain, which was developing plans for trade relations with Central Asian states.



Central Asia had two important natural advantages - fertile soils and a fertile climate, which helped the population, even with a low level of development of productive forces, create fairly intensive and productive agriculture. Thanks to many years of experience, the peoples of Central Asia have developed skills for growing field, garden, melon and garden crops adapted to the conditions of the region. It harvested cotton, wheat, dzhugars, millet, barley, alfalfa, onions, carrots, cucumbers, pumpkins, apples, plums, apricots, peaches, figs, pears, as well as melons, watermelons, nuts, almonds and valuable grape varieties. Sericulture developed everywhere. In almost every dekhkan farm, cotton was cultivated, both for its own needs and for sale.

In the areas of nomadic cattle breeding, fat tail and karakul sheep, cattle, camels and horses were bred in large numbers. Livestock products (wool, leather, meat, milk, butter, etc.) played an important role in the economy of Central Asia.



Achievements in agriculture were highly valued by Europeans. For instance, academician A. Middendorf is author of “**The hardworking inhabitant of Central Asia,**” wrote “serves us as an example of unparalleled undemandingness, love of work, tireless diligence and working stamina along with great liveliness of mind.” Handicraft was important in the economic life of the cities of the Bukhara emirate. One of its main types was weaving. Bukhara fabrics of olach, buz, chintz and silk, Samarkand plush of dark red color were known far beyond. Shawls, bedding and turban woven from yarn are also widespread.

The rich natural resources of the Bukhara emirate were not used to develop the economy of the region. The manufacturing industry was located in cities. Craftsmen were forced to pay numerous requisitions and taxes

and did not have the necessary funds to develop their own production. Only in the large cities of the emirate, some craftsmen created workshops, which were small workshops. Nevertheless, craft production was well developed here. The main industry was the manufacture of carpets and laces. Bukhara carpets were highly valued abroad and they were exported in large quantities abroad and to Russia. Bazaars of the Middle East, cities of Central Asia and Russia were filled with carpets of Bukhara production.

Moreover, Bukhara cotton, leather, gold-sewing, silver and copper-stamped products, dyeing and soap making products were in great demand in the domestic and foreign markets. The products of Bukhara masters made of gold and silver were famous. In all cities there were jewelry workshops. All their products were distinguished by their originality and exquisite taste. Pottery was also well developed and popular.

Another type of handicraft was blacksmithing, metal processing. They made knives, sickles, as well as weapons: swords, daggers, axes, bows and arrows, shields. They even made guns. Jewelry and pottery, woodworking were also important branches of handicraft. Wooden frames for windows and doors, beshik (cradles), arbas, chests, boats, etc. were made. Products with the use of wood carvings were especially valued. From rods weaved baskets.



The manufacture of home carpets, rugs, saddles for horses, covers for knives and leather handbags developed.

At the end of the XIX century. Bukhara maintained trade relations with Afghanistan, India, Iran, the Caucasus and Russia. In 1884, jewelers and artisans of Bukhara took part in the world exhibition in Vienna. Their products made a deep impression on visitors with exquisite taste, grace of form and accuracy of the picture.

Russian trading enterprises settled in cities such as Bukhara, Chardzhui, Kerki, Termez and New Bukhara. The trade turnover between Russia and Bukhara grew rapidly: if in 1865 it amounted to only 5 million rubles, then in 1913 - 66 million rubles. All trade routes between Russia and Afghanistan passed through Bukhara. Russia imported to Afghanistan in large quantities cloth, china, velvet, chintz, matches, kerosene and other goods. Such transit trade brought great profit to Bukhara.



In 1887, the territory of the emirate was crossed by a railway. 15 km from Bukhara, construction of New Bukhara and the Kagan station was started. The Emir's palace and the residence of the Russian political agent were built here. Now Bukhara was connected by rail with Tashkent, Orenburg and Moscow. In 1888, the railway was laid to Samarkand. On the territory of the Bukhara emirate, Russian settlements began to be built at railway stations. A branch of the Russian State Bank was opened in New Bukhara, two ginneries and three European-style hotels were built. A branch of the Moscow International Bank was also opened in old Bukhara. A telephone connection was made between the Kushbegi house in old Bukhara and the Russian political agency in Kagan. However, in 1895, the Emirate of Bukhara was included in the single customs system of Russia, which immediately strengthened the emirate's dependence on the Russian Empire, as it turned into an internal market for goods from Russia.

Trade relations of the Bukhara emirate with Russia also developed and expanded. In 1804, an inn for Bukhara merchants was built in Orenburg, where up to 20 families lived. They played an important role in the development of trade between the emirate and Russia. Many living in this inn in 1812 participated in the battle against Napoleon's army. By 1825, the court of merchants expanded, the number of families reached 30. They were mainly craftsmen, bakers and merchants. Thus, the economy of the Bukhara state gradually acquired the direction of establishing trade with Russia.

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