



## HISTORY OF TERMIZ (END OF THE 19TH CENTURY, BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY)

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| Article history:                                                                                                                                      | Abstract:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <b>Received:</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2022<br><b>Accepted:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2023<br><b>Published:</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 | It is known from history that after occupying the territory of Turkestan, the Russian Empire organizes research activities throughout the territory of the country in order to expand its political and economic opportunities and begins to establish its base centers in these territories. One of such areas is Termiz. Termiz has gained importance as a military fortification and a border center. |
| <b>Keywords:</b> Termiz, Pattakesar, Amudarya, Kerki, Sherabod, "Turkestanskije vedomosti", "Turkestanskiy sbornik".                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

**INTRODUCTION.** Termiz is distinguished by its history, culture and convenient strategic location. In this regard, Central Russia organized the study of all areas of this region. Many Russian tourists, engineers, and scientists came to Termez and wrote down a number of historical information in their memoirs. In particular, detailed information is given about the first Russian military settlement, Pattakesar.

It is well known to us that after the conquest of the Russian Empire, it became important to study Turkestan in all aspects. It is especially important to research the Surkhan oasis through historical sources and literature. When studying the history of the Surkhan oasis, it is possible to refer to the collection "Turkestanskiy sbornik" published under the auspices of the Governor General of Turkestan. and an analysis of the history of foreign trade relations is presented. No. 497, 474, 504. In these issues, the information provided by Russian orientalists on the history of Termiz-Pattakesari is analyzed. It is also possible to cite the articles published in Turkestanskiy Vedomosti, the first newspaper in Turkestan. In the 1910 issue of the newspaper No. 210, articles were published about the development of industry, the introduction of the railway and the history of trade relations in Pattakesar. In this collection and the pages of the newspaper, the history of the Surkhan oasis, especially the history of Termiz-Pattakesar, was published. The works of the Russian military engineer and orientalist D. N. Logofet, who announced

**ANALYSIS AND RESULTS.** From the early days of the Russian Empire's colonialism, it tried to develop agriculture in Central Asia and thereby expand the irrigation system, as well as establish strategically favorable border areas. Termiz was the area where such works were carried out on a large scale. The border of Termiz Bukhara Emirate with Afghanistan was a strategic area that was favorable for trade and economy. In order to improve the military-strategic situation in Central Asia, efforts were made to establish several bases on the Bukhara-Afghan border.

Indeed, in 1888, the Amudarya-Kerki fortification was built and a military garrison was established for this purpose. But due to the fact that the location of this fortification was far from the main road, unfavorable climatic conditions, many people from the ranks of the garrison died of malaria, and the city that appeared on the banks of the river was regularly washed away by water. due to the stagnation of the trading center, the search for a place to build a new fortification in the upper reaches of the Amudarya began. After discussing this issue, it was decided to build a fortification near the ruins of the old Termiz at the confluence of the Surkhan River with the Amudarya. This place is 200 kilometers away from the Kerki fortification stood[1].

The general description of the place is that it is an open sandy plain, bounded on the north side by low mountain ranges, which descend at a gentle slope to the Amudarya. The flat coast of Pattakesar\* is slightly hilly and is located along the river. The places in modern Termiz, consisting of the barracks of the 13th Turkestan regular battalion, were located on an open plain with yellow soil, surrounded by a marshy strip by the Amudarya. Residents living in the vicinity of Termiz have always endured the vagaries of Amudarya. Since Pattakesar is located on the Amudarya River, it was considered an important strategic point for the Russian Empire (Kerki and Kelif are among the most important points on the Amudarya coast) [1].

Especially after the treaty signed between the Russian Empire and the Bukhara Emirate on September 28, 1873, it gained more attention. It is known that the agreement consists of 17 articles, and its 3rd article states: "In the Amudarya section belonging to the Bukhara emirate, Bukhara ships and Russian steamships, as well as government and private ships, among other fleet ships, are allowed to sail freely", and in the 4th article of the agreement, " Russians have the right to build their own parking place and warehouses on the necessary and convenient banks of the Amudarya in Bukhara" [2].

The articles of the agreement signed on June 23, 1888 will be revised and the territories of New Bukhara, Khorjoi and Kerki will be chosen as the main place of residence for Russian citizens. In addition, it is planned to build

settlements along the Amudarya border line. In particular, near the village of Pattakesar in Termiz, which is adjacent to the Amudarya bank, the construction of residential areas for Russians to live will begin. develops[2]. Information about this period is also available in many scientific research works[3].

On January 15, 1893, after Termiz was handed over to the Tsar of Russia by the emir of Bukhara, the deployment of military units began here. The Russian government began to implement all measures to develop this area. It is well known to us that the main goal of the agrarian policy of the Russian Empire in Turkestan was to solve the cotton problem, and to implement this, important measures were required in the irrigation system. In the early years, the imperial authorities implemented irrigation system measures to improve the water supply of the towns and villages where Russian soldiers and residents lived, and to meet the demand for food products. The works carried out in the city of Termiz are a clear example of this situation. Taking into account the fact that the territories of the Surkhan oasis border with the country of Afghanistan and the increasing malicious demands of the British towards the territories of the Bukhara emirate through this country, the government of the Russian Empire firmly occupied the city of Termiz. important events had begun.

The most important task was the water supply of the military city. As early as 1889, measures were taken to irrigate 10,000 decimeters of land around the city of Termiz with Qizilsuv, a tributary of the Surkhan River [4]. About 20 sargins, they crossed a steep slope according to the direction of the current. The marshland near Termiz was no more than 1-1/2 miles in total width of the terraced flat areas.[5]

Taking into account that the barracks of the 13th battalion is located about 2 miles from the river, it can be said that it is close to the Amudarya military posts. Termiz is located in a wide area 6-7 miles from Pattakesar. the coverings have been preserved. The sources say the following about the city: Near the city of Termiz there is a citadel of Zoinabad. The largest city on the Amu Darya coast is Termiz, which is located on the straight road from Samarkand to Mazari Sharif and Kabul. Termiz has long been the southernmost point of the Bukhara-Afghan border and has a very favorable strategic position as a place protected by Surkhan and Amudarya[1].

A large area of fertile land with yellow soil around Termiz and the presence of ancient irrigation systems made it possible to easily turn these lands into a cultivated state. For this, it was necessary to restore the old ditches. On December 12, 1894, the 31st Amudarya brigade of border units was brought to Pattakesar to guard the borders of Amudarya [6].

In 1897, a place for fortification was assigned by a special commission and the construction of a barracks for the military unit began. It should also be mentioned that the first person who paid attention to Termiz as a city and a strong fortress was the former commander of the Amudarya brigade, Colonel S. Kostevich. He chose a place near Termiz and together with the headquarters of the border brigade houses the church, barracks, staff officers' apartments, and hospitals are built for them[1].

For the construction of military units, 40 tenths of land was purchased from the local population. Then it became known that the irrigation of the plot was directed to the poorly constructed Salihabad ditch. Therefore, it was planned to request a large plot of land from the Bukhara Emirate instead of buying it.

It was necessary to build a new irrigation system to irrigate this plot of land. In 1898, engineer Gelman's expedition came to Termiz to find out the issue on the spot. The main task assigned to him was to draw up a preliminary project of irrigation of the lands near Termiz with a total area of 14,750 desiatins. For this, the construction of a new ditch worth 130,000 rubles was planned. This issue was also considered by a number of commissions. and finally, in 1899, a special council was held under the chairmanship of the army commander, General Dukhovskiy. The Council makes the final decision as follows: It is necessary for the Russian Government to undertake the improvement and extension of the irrigation systems of all the existing Pattakesar and Salihabad canals, together with the construction of a new and reliable canal starting from the Salihabad Canal[1].

As a result of this decision, the relevant application is accepted and the emir of Bukhara gives the Russian government 9,000 decimeters of land for free. These lands bordered the Amudarya on the one hand, and were connected by a straight line from the ruins of Old Termiz to the Surkhan River on the other.

In connection with the transfer of this huge plot of land to the Russian government, the military engineer Gelman was assigned to review this project. The expedition was allowed. He determined the condition of the entire irrigation system, the Surkhan River and the Salihabad stream, the water flow, speed, the river bottom and soil based on drilling, and divided both banks of the Surkhan River 120 miles away from Termez. Along with this, engineer B. I. Kastalsky created a project to irrigate Termiz through a main dam from the Surkhan River, a special ditch with a stilling basin. This was done because the Surkhan water was very muddy. In 1901, the project for the construction of a new canal was approved. The issue of irrigation of Termiz was a matter of state importance. Because of the favorable conditions, it was possible to create a large trading city here, which would allow trade relations with Afghanistan.

The development of Pattakesar near Termiz clearly proves that this area offers great commercial opportunities. Together with the military, merchants also come and settle here and build houses and open their shops[7]. In the future, it was necessary to fulfill all its possibilities in order to turn Termiz into a huge city. At the heart of fulfilling these possibilities, of course, the economic interest lay in the irrigation system. All costs will be spent to turn Termiz-Pattakesari into a city with a large population. The government of the Russian Empire allocated 57 thousand soums for the implementation of these works [5].

A number of specialists are invited to improve the irrigation system. One of those who implemented such a huge project is the military engineer A.G. Ananov. Thanks to the services of the engineer A.G. Ananov, this first Russian settlement was established as the main military border city settlement of the Emirate of Afghanistan and Bukhara for three years. [8].

A.G. Ananov worked on the irrigation system of Termiz and carried out research on the irrigation system of the adjacent lands of Sherabad region to Termiz. as a result, various great opportunities arose in Termiz and its surroundings. Later, the Russian government began to consider the issue of building joint-stock enterprises here. It mainly consisted of enterprises-communities established for the purpose of irrigating fertile lands for cotton planting [1].

The Pattakesar region is important as a major transit point. It is located on the main transit trade route from Samarkand to Kabul and India. As a result of this lively trade movement, many products of India, such as tea, gauze, indigo dye, coral, etc. million rubles were transferred. Pattakesar gained importance for direct trade and economic relations with Mazari Sharif, an important trade and administrative center of northern Afghanistan [4].

Another Russian specialist who was in Termez, tourist R. Yu. Rojevitsa, a representative of the Imperial Geographical Society, gave information about the natural border of Termiz, which was built in Pattakesar on the banks of the Amudarya. In addition, the tourist gave information about the completion of a canal with a well in Termiz in 1906 [9].

It should also be noted that Pattakesar played an important role in the development of trade relations with Afghanistan. Because the main customs post is located here, the imported goods are packed here and delivered to Afghan merchants through the border post. [10].

We can read the following information about Termiz in the press pages: Termiz is a port city in Eastern Bukhara[11].

In the October-November issue of "Turkestanskije vedomosti" newspaper No. 217 of 1908, information is provided: In "The Pioneer Mail" (India) newspaper, the Russian Empire is trying to develop trade and industrial network in Central Asia, especially the possibilities of Amudarya in expanding cotton fields. about learning, the irrigation system of the Termiz military district, which is 40 km away from Mazari Sharif, is well established, the activities of the Amudarya flotilla are developing, and also the cotton trade with Northern Afghanistan, where Termiz was easy to find work at that time, is good we can see that it has been reported that it is becoming a developed city[12].

It is known from history that the first industrial enterprise in the Surkhan oasis was established in 1910, and its operation was powered by a 60-horsepower steam engine, and later it was powered by a 50-horsepower steam engine. carried out using lgan diesel. Lieutenant-Colonel Krichinsky, the military chief of the city of Termiz, ordered and signed a contract with the owner of the local enterprise, N.F. Nerodetsky, to build a power plant.

In 1914-1917, an agreement was signed between the owner of the local enterprise, N. F. Nerodetsky, and the Governor-General of Turkestan on the electrification of Pattakesar (now Termiz), before the first world war (1914-1918) began. As a result, the city of Termiz was destroyed. The "enlightenment" thus stops.

On July 17, 1927, the planning commission of Surkhandarya district decided to build a power station in Pattakesar, Termiz and Sherabad in its decision No. 10. On November 14 of this year, 75,000 soums were allocated from the local budget for the expansion of the Pattakesar power station. by 1928, a 100-horsepower diesel was put into operation for the first time in the city of Termiz [13].

**CONCLUSION.** Pattakesar-Termiz was distinguished not only by being a trade area, but also had strategic importance in terms of the main political and military border area of the Russian Empire.

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