



HISTORICAL-SOURCE ANALYSIS OF THE COSTS SPENT ON THE WATER ECONOMY OF THE MIDDLE ZARAFSHAN OASIS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Bobodustov Bobur Mirzaboyevich

Base Doctorate, Samarkand State University

ABSTRACT

In this article highlights of historical-source analysis of the costs spent on the water economy of the middle zarafshan oasis at the beginning of the 20th century.

KEY WORDS: *Russian Empire, Turkestan region, Zarafshan oasis, water economy, "cotton work", cotton farming.*

One of the main goals of the agrarian policy of the government of the Russian Empire in the Turkestan region was to increase the cultivation of cotton raw materials and transport it as a commodity. With the development of cotton farming, the need arose to regularly improve the irrigation system and reclamation of land in the territory. Such cases would have required the government of the Russian Empire to study the existing land-water relations in the Turkestan region. To this end, colonial administrators implemented a number of measures to study the history of the country.

This is a new phase in the water management history of Zarafshan Oasis and has been instrumental in the scientific study of its water resources and irrigation systems as well as the implementation of preliminary irrigation works towards improving its water supply. The policy of the administration of the Empire in Turkestan was to get as much profit from the territory as possible at the expense of trifles.

During the colonial period, only 50,000 hectares of land in Turkestan was irrigated, and the funds allocated to it did not exceed 50,000 rubles per year. For more than half a century (1865-1917), the imperial government spent a total of 36.4 million rubles for the irrigation of Turkestan, of which 34.9 million rubles (96 percent) date from 1895-1915. Of this, 25 million rubles were spent on the construction of a water farm, the rest of the project to provide a place for exploration, irrigation system and reclamation[1].

From the lands from which the government of the Empire began to assimilate, cotton was harvested higher in the early days. The area of irrigated total land in the locality was increased from 1,100 desyatina in 1901-1905, to 3,000 desyatina, i.e. expanded 3 times.

The issue of the allocation of an additional 3 million 230 thousand rubles for the expansion of irrigation stations (i.e. to reach plots divided into 8-10 desyatina) was introduced into the State Duma, but the duma refused to allocate additional funds in February 1914[2]. This work could only be done at the expense of the material resources of the population.

In the agrarian policy of the colonial administration in the Turkisgon region, two main tasks stood: a) to increasingly strengthen the position of the Imperial government in the Turkestan territory; b) to use the rich natural and economic reserves of the territory in their own interests. The local scientist Prince M.L.Masalsky, in his words, focuses on the issues of land and water in Turkestan, arguing that in order to achieve cheap cotton raw materials, it is necessary to establish a single government of cotton in the territory, take measures to move Russians.

The prime goal and main directions of the Russian Empire, which are considered from the Agrarian Policy in Turkestan, are taken by the minister of state property and ziroat A.V.Krivoshein expressed: "there are three views on this central issue. If in the first there is a glowing inscription "cotton", in the second there is an inscription "watering",



and finally, even if in the third it is not very conspicuous, and in fact, more importantly – the inscription “moving and settling the Russians” stands. The minister expressed the main directions of the center's colonial policy in Turkestan in a very concise, concise way, namely in three words: “cotton”, “irrigation”, “resettlement of Russians”. A.V.Krivoshein emphasizes the initial economic aspect of the issue, trying to clearly substantiate his views. “To our domestic market, over the past 20 years, it has been necessary to pay 700 million rubles for American cotton only as a duty. And since 1900 we demand from 40 million rubles a year”[3].

M.Bradovsky more compactly expresses the role and significance of the Turkestan territory in the chapter of Russian interest. "This territory annexed to the empire," he wrote, " should be regarded as a colony closely connected with the Empire... The site is capable of conveying southern climate products for the need of European Russia's manufacturing industry. With a partly nomadic cattle rancher and partly grassy, mostly peasant population, the colony developed a very low manufacturing industry. That is why it naturally becomes a market where European Russia manufactures are sold agonically" [4].

But there is another important practical aspect to the matter. It is known that by the end of the XIX century, capitalism had developed rapidly in Russia, and this process led primarily to the sharp development of the light industry, especially the textile industry. The raw materials needed for the textile industry were cotton which at the time was mostly purchased from America. In 1894, the Russian Minister of land affairs and state property, who was on a trip to the Turkestan territory, spoke at a meeting of the Yermoloy State Duma and expressed the firm opinion that "Turkestan cotton can compete not only in the domestic market, but also with American cotton, displacing it from consumption altogether by the time." After that, the State Duma created a special “Cotton commission”, cotton production became one of the priorities of government policy. "Cotton raw materials for the textile industry, i.e., began to be supplied with Turkestan cotton. the government of the Empire began to implement its policies consistently.

At the same time, work performed throughout the year: including newly built water structures, the volume of necessary materials spent on them, Labor and sums were recorded in the diary and reported in the work on the surface of the water farm. For example, Dargam is recorded in the Diary of an elder of stream.

Next to the village of Samarkand uezd Jartepa, an iron and brick gated water diversion facility was built on the site where 1048 rubles 59 kopecks were spent in 1904 for the division of the Kazan, Eskidargom canals, or in the same year it was separated from the city ditch to divide the Ark ditch. In addition, a brick tunnel was built to throw the waters of Lake Magiyon Sizot, located near the village of Yerteshar, under the upper Siyab canal into the Zarafshan river, which cost 2324 rubles 25 kopeika[5].

In 1905, a Dargot was built to bring water from the ravine to the new city, which cost 1,565 rubles 53 kopecks, or also a Mullion ditch was extracted from the city's ditch, and a brick-and-mortar was built on his head, which cost 4,113 rubles for the structure. 5,548 rubles were spent on the dargah of Khishrov Arik, 7,639 rubles for the dargah of the Dimishqqi bolo canal, 18 kopecks for the dargah of Khishrov Arik[6].

According to the information from the Diary of the elder Mirzaariq stream, in 1906, 2,225 rubles were spent on 11 kopecks for the arghot of the city stream, which took place from Mirzaariq. It is noted that 2028 rubles were spent on the Dargat of the city stream near the Sozangaran gate. It is also noted in the diary of Anhor stream elder that in 1906, 300 workers were recruited per day to introduce a normal water distribution from this irrigation network, but half or sometimes even less was given the indicated Labour Force[7].

In 1904-1908, 7050 rubles were spent on 10 kopecks in the construction of dargat and water separators along the Obi-rahmat Canal[8].

In 1906-1908, 3023 rubles 66 kopecks were spent on the construction of a new dargat and water exchange in the new urban part of the city of Samarkand. Also, 2004 rubles were spent on 24 kopecks for dargat, which was built in 1908 from Bogishamol to Yumuchka stream[9].



Thus, all of the elder of the ariq were assigned responsible tasks such as meeting the need for water in the farm, eliminating disagreements arising in the irrigation process, collecting information about the state of the water economy and its improvement and communicating them to the uezd and regional irrigation organizations[10].

The establishment of a colonial Irrigation Administration in Turkestan was somewhat regulated by the service fees paid to the mirobs. Although in the early years after the conquest of the territory by Tsarist Russia, for the lower classes of the water industry, including mirob and bandbons were harvested from 2 coins at the expense of double land from farmers as before, “qoshpuli” as well as kafsan, but Russian irrigators and Creek elders who served in the water management administration received salaries at the expense of for example, in the late 19th - early 20th centuries, 99.8 thousand rubles per year were allocated for irrigation workers in the Turkestan Region[11]. This corresponds to 5 kopecks per desyatina area of fertile land in Turkestan[12].

During this period, the head of irrigation in the Samarkand region was charged 2800 rubles for a year's salary, rubles for each of the irrigation techniques, and 1200 rubles for supervisory conductors. The stream elders received a salary from the state from 360 to 720 rubles per year. The total annual salary of 23 stream elders in the Samarkand region was 14,240 rubles[13].

Since 1912, in accordance with the requirements of irrigation services, a certain salary was assigned by the Turkestan administration in place of kafsan, even for mirobs serving in the irrigation of the territory. After that, mirobs began to receive an annual salary from 130 to 240 rubles for work. In the Samarkand region at the beginning of the 20th century there were 454 mirobs, who received a salary of 56,860 rubles for the year. The water meter in hydraulic posts costs from 144 to 900 rubles per salary for hydrotechnicians, for which 786 rubles are allocated in a year. In addition to these, horse controllers were appointed for the purpose of establishing order in the trunk channels, which were assigned a monthly salary of 15 rubles, and each year an average of 2,250 rubles was allocated for these states from 1,800 to 2,700 rubles[14]. For mounted controllers assigned along the Zarafshan River, a salary of 25 rubles per month was set, for which a total of 600 rubles were allocated in a year.

For special measures involved to bring information from hydrometric posts installed along the Zarafshan river to the irrigation manager of the Samarkand region, a salary of 15 rubles to 20 rubles was established, for which 630 rubles were spent in a year. For regional irrigation services in general, 89,350 rubles were spent on an average account in one year[15]. Judging by the information contained in the archival documents, a number of measures of the colonial administration created at the beginning of the 20th century, bills (ceding irrigation works in Turkestan to concessions and, in return, buying and selling the remaining mikdorini with their water to them as personal property, “Water Law of 1910”, etc.) were aimed at practically eliminating the land-water

It is known that at the end of the XIX century, a crisis began, in which Russian agriculture was recognized by the government itself. In the “regulation on the management of the Turkestan territory” of June 12, 1886, special field-exploration groups began to develop irrigated agriculture in the Russian south, to expand irrigation in the Turkestan territory. Later, a legal basis was laid for a wide range of searches and searches carried out in the field of land and water reserves research in the Turkestan region.

In conclusion, irrigated land was divided into field or open land, horticultural and agricultural land, depending on the crops. Irrigation farming was the result of incredibly large labor. The construction of large irrigation facilities and their regular timely cleaning and repair work required large funds, the organized power enthusiasm of a large number of people. By the beginning of XX, agriculture had greatly expanded, the type of crops had increased, cotton sole rule had grown, it was displaced to take it to Russia. As a result of this, the policy of organizational displacement became political and irrigated land expanded.



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