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TURKESTAN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

A Brief History of the Khanates of Bukhara, Kokand and Khiva

Ву

Mary Holdsworth

Issued by the Central Asian Research Centre in association with St. Antony's College (Oxford) Soviet Affairs Study Group.

INTRODUCTION

This study of Bukhara, Kokand and Khorezm in the nineteenth century was undertaken for two main reasons. First, as a contribution to the histories of territories and peoples who, by the end of the nineteenth century or earlier, found themselves to be parts of western empires. The contemporary approach is to study such histories not solely as an extension of that of the metropolitan country concerned, but in their own right. Work has been and is being done on South-East Asian and African countries and a similar beginning of the Turkestan khanates, which became part of the Russian Empire, seemed appropriate if only for comparative purposes. The second reason was to make available to English-speaking readers some of the material now being published in Soviet journals and monographs. This material supplements and in certain respects corrects the mass of descriptive matter produced in the nineteenth century, when the cities, cases and deserts of Turkestan became the magnet of travellers, soldiers and oriental scholars from Europe. As a preliminary it was necessary to bring together existing material in French and English, the entries in the Encyclopaedia of Islam and the two Russian nineteenth century Encyclopaedias, Brockhaus and Efron, and Granat, and notably the extensive and scholarly studies of Professor V.V. Barthold. The value of the new Soviet material is that it provides data on current problems relating to customary law, land tenure, administrative organization, and the practical processes of economy. In studying the contact of cultures, whether brought about by an imperial situation or otherwise, historians and administrators have come more and more to regard customary law (adat) as part of jurisprudence, the sanctions and limitations of a khan's rule as part of the general study of government, and the exchange arrangements of subsistence and transitional economies as integral parts of economic history. The data for discussing such questions, so far as the countries of Soviet Central Asia are concerned, can now only be obtained from Soviet sources (the question of interpretation and handling of such material by Soviet scholars is beside the immediate point), and I have therefore found it interesting and useful to select from it and to reproduce it in manageable form for English readers.

Mary Holdsworth

August 1959

NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION

The following general principles have been observed in the transliteration of Russian and Central Asian names of places, persons and items of source material:

- 1. All Russian names have been transliterated in accordance with the system advocated by the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for Official Use (PCGN).
- 2. Central Asian personal names relating to the pre-Russian, and to some extent the Tsarist, periods are transliterated according to traditional usage followed in English historical works. Personal names relating to the Soviet period are transliterated from the Russian spelling according to the PCGN system, e.g. Khodzhayev.
- 3. Geographical names are transliterated according to the PCGN system from the Russian spelling used in Soviet maps except where the actual name has been changed, e.g. Shakhrisyabz, and not Shahr-i-Sabz; but Khojent when used in relation to the pre-Soviet period, and not Leninabad, the present-day name.

TURKESTAN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

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THE TURKISH LANGUAGE OF SOVIET AZERBAIJAN by C.G. Simpson, Reader in Turkish at the University of Durham. 120 pp. large post quarto. Price: Twenty Shillings.

A summary of the grammar of the current literary language of Soviet Azerbaijan together with passages of contemporary literature and extracts from the press.

RUSSIAN WORKS ON AFGHANISTAN. 12 pp. large post quarto. Price: Five Shillings.

A bibliography compiled for the most part from bibliographies and references found in Russian publications in the course of the Centre's study on Afghanistan (CENTRAL ASIAN REVIEW, Vol. IV, No. 2). It does not claim to be exhaustive, but is believed to be the only one of its kind in existence.

RECENT SOVIET SOURCE MATERIAL ON SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA AND THE BORDERLANDS: Issued as a biannual supplement to CENTRAL ASIAN REVIEW. Approx. 50 pp. large post quarto. Price: Five Shillings.

This bibliography is limited to certain specific periodicals, about 50 in number, and to new books. Highly technical source material is not included.

MAP OF SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA & KAZAKHSTAN: In the form of four folded Sheets in booklet cover with Introduction, Gazetteer and Glossary. Price complete: Forty-two Shillings post free.

The Map is based on a Russian map on scale 1: 5M in the ATLAS MIRA of 1954. It has been brought up to date (1958) as far as possible. Scale: 1:3,750,000. It is printed in six colours; heights, depths and contour values are given in metres.

In preparation

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TURKMEN LANGUAGE by G.K. Dulling. (Early 1960)

Turkmen, while related to modern Turkish and Azeri in the south-western group of Turkic languages, differs from them in several important points of phonetics, morphology and syntax. This book describes these differences and also contains some notes on the unwritten Turkmen dialects spoken outside the Soviet Republic of Turkmenistan in Persia and Afghanistan.

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