

THE USE OF FACTORY PAPER IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN KHANATES

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Abstract: Correspondence, considered an instrument of diplomatic communication, serves as a historical source. When studying the correspondence of high-ranking officials and the interdepartmental exchange of letters, it is necessary to pay attention to the external descriptive aspects of this type of source. The formation of researchers' ability to distinguish between the types of paper on which a diplomatic letter is written serves to form the initial ideas of the parties regarding interstate relations and the concession system. The present study focuses on the introduction of Russian factory paper, which served as the main writing material in the Central Asian region, especially in the offices of the emirate, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Keywords: Bukhara, paper production, Pakhre river, Peter I, paper mills, cardboard, correspondence, Turkestan governor-general, diplomatic official, Political Agency of the Russian Emperor in Bukhara.

Introduction

The main part of our spiritual heritage, created at different stages of historical development, was written on writing paper and has reached us. Some of the famous papers in the Eastern world were made in water mills in the cities of Samarkand, Bukhara and Kokand. These papers were recognized by calligraphers, scribes, secretaries and scribes in their time for their quality and convenience in writing letters in Arabic orthography. Historical events and incidents that occurred in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were written on Russian factory paper, which was widely consumed during this period.

Research results and analysis: As a result of the establishment of paper manufactories and factories in Russia during the 17th and 19th centuries, several types and varieties of paper products were produced. The main part of these products became a popular commodity in the markets of Central Asia. After all, during this period, the social and political situation in Central Asia led to the cessation of papermaking in paper production centers such as Samarkand and Bukhara. The paper mills in Kokand and later Tashkent could not satisfy all the needs of the region for paper, and the products manufactured in Russian factories were superior in both quantity and quality.

If we look at the brief history of Russian manufactured and factory papers entering the Central Asian markets, we can note that paper production in Russia was first established in 1655. It was headed by Patriarch Nikon, and the first paper mill in Russia was built on the banks of the Pakhre River near Moscow. However, this workshop, built as a result of river floods, was destroyed several times. After that, the government transferred this workshop to the

representative of the Moscow Post Office, Johann van Swede, on a 6-year lease in 1659. The second paper mill in Russia was established on the banks of the Yauz River near Moscow in the 70s of the 17th century. This mill was also leased to Ereme Levkeb. However, these two workshops could not cover the paper needs of the entire state. Therefore, they used paper from countries such as Russia, Holland and France[1].

By the 18th century, papermaking in Russia had developed significantly on the initiative of Emperor Peter I. As a result, initially, at the beginning of this century, paper production was established in the Moscow, Petersburg and Kologa provinces, but by 1799 the number of such provinces had reached 24, and by 1895 it had reached 36. Each province had from 1 to 7 paper factories[2].

According to statistics, in 1725 there were 5 paper factories in Russia, in 1761 there were 26, and in 1800 there were 57. By the beginning of the 19th century, the number of paper factories had increased to 64, in 1835 to 134, in 1862 to 162, in 1885 to 180, in 1895 to 206, and by the beginning of the 20th century to 250[3]. This shows that in Russia, during the 17th-20th centuries, papermaking technology had improved from simple paper mills to paper factories.

Papers produced in Russian factories and factories were divided into several types. In particular, paper manufacturers divided the papers they produced into five main groups:

Group 1: Writing, printing, engraving, copying, and papermaking;

2 groups: Documentary, drawing, parchment;

3 groups: Permeable and filtering

4 groups: Wrapping

5 groups: Cardboard.

The papers belonging to this group differed from each other. That is, one writing paper itself was divided into about 9-10 types. These papers were also divided according to the field of use and quality. These papers were mainly used for official work in offices and organizations.

"Postage paper" differed in its thickness and format, while printing ("печатная") paper was distinguished from writing paper by its lack of sound. Among the papers belonging to this group, engraving (гравированная бумага) paper was a special type of printing paper, which was used for engraving and drawing cards, and copying (копировальная) paper was clear, thick and waterproof and intended for copying. Documentary paper (документальная) was often handmade, thick and thin, and did not break when folded.

Types of paper such as drawing (рисовальная), parchment (пергаментная), permeable (пропусная), filtering "фильтрующая", rapyrus "папиросная", wrapping "оберточная", cardboard "картон" were made in large sizes, thin or of special thickness, and were produced for filtering liquids, packaging raw materials and products, in laboratories, pharmacies, as well as for industrial and everyday use[4].

In the 19th and 20th centuries, almost all sectors and departments of the Turkestan Governorate, the Khiva Khanate, and, in particular, the Bukhara Emirate, benefited from papers produced in Russian factories

This situation can be assessed as follows:

1. During this period, the production of writing paper in local paper workshops such as Samarkand and Bukhara had almost stopped;
2. The paper production institutions in Kokand and Tashkent, established in the 19th century, could not satisfy the need for paper. Although these papers entered the city markets and competed in quality with factory-made papers, they could not compete in quantity and price;
3. The increase in the need for paper in Central Asia in the second half of the 19th century can also be assessed by the increase in departmental correspondence conducted in the activities of official institutions, various firms and companies in the system of the Turkestan Governorate, as well as within the framework of their mutual relations.
4. During this period, papers produced in Russian factories became the main writing instrument for conducting local, as well as inter-governmental correspondence in the offices of the Khiva Khanate and the Bukhara Emirate. This, in turn, led to an increase in the demand for factory paper in these countries.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, we can observe that important information about the history of Central Asia, as well as the countries bordering it, was mainly recorded on Russian factory paper.

An analysis of written sources preserved in the National Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan, mainly in the documents of the Imperial Political Agency in Bukhara and the Bukhara Koshbegi office, the office of the Turkestan Governor-General and the funds of diplomatic officials under the Turkestan Governor-General, showed that diplomatic communications and correspondence between the Bukhara Emirate and the Russian Empire in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century were mainly conducted on factory paper[5].

It was found that during this period, the relations between the administrators of the emirate and the empire were mainly carried out through the exchange of letters. This, in turn, led to the need to study the type of paper on which these letters were written.

Thus, it became known that the correspondence between the Russian Emperor's political agency in Bukhara, the administrative institutions of the Russian Empire, the Turkestan Governorate and its territorial administrators, and representatives of the Bukhara Emirate government on various issues was carried out using the following papers[6].

- Papers produced in Russian factories
- Papers produced in factories in other countries

Conclusion. During the research, it was found that in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, local papers and papers produced in Russia and other regions

of the world were used in the Central Asian region. Along with studying the historical information recorded on these papers, it is also important to study the history of paper. After all, papers that contain important information about the history of our country help determine the historical value of written sources.

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