



## PARTICIPATION OF THE TURKESTAN MILITARY DISTRICT IN THE COLONIAL POLICY CONDUCTED IN THE BUKHARA EMIRATE AND ITS CHARACTERISTICS

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### ABOUT ARTICLE

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**Abstract:** In the second half of the 19th century - the beginning of the 20th century, in order to end the opposition and resistance movements dissatisfied with the colonial system, and to prevent popular movements from spreading to the territory of the Turkestan General Governorate, the troops of the Turkestan military district constantly interfered in the political processes in the Bukhara Emirate and sent many military units to their placed in the area. The presence of the colonial armed forces in the territory of the emirate led to the fact that the independence of this state in internal politics became a relative concept.

### INTRODUCTION

In 1868, Amir Muzaffar, after making peace with the Russian Empire and maintaining his power, began to eliminate internal rivals. After all, due to the defeat and the signing of a humiliating treaty, a great opposition against the emir arose in Bukhara. They wanted to bring Abdumalik Tura to the throne and continue the fight against the Russian occupation. The center of opposition was Guzor, Shahrisabz and Kitab. Sultan Sadik also joined them. In the summer of 1868, he occupied Abdumalik Tura Karshi. In August 1868, Sultan Sadik defeated the 13,000-strong Amirs' army and captured Nurota and Karmana. Amir Muzaffar was left in a difficult situation. Many of his officials went over to the side of Abdumalik Tura.

After the rebels occupied the eastern part of the emirate, Amir Muzaffar wrote a letter to the district commander von Kaufman asking for help from the Turkestan military district: the wave of protests and riots around Tura is due to the arrival of the Russians. You need to send an army armed with cannons to destroy Tura and his supporters. Von Kaufman assigned the task of helping the emir of Bukhara to Abramov, head of the Zarafshan district. On September 3, 1868, Abramov informed the emir that he would not allow a coup d'etat in Bukhara, and that he was gathering a military detachment in Jom against Tura. It was from this period that the Turkestan military district had a wide opportunity to interfere in the internal affairs of the Bukhara Emirate.

DISCUSSION. In October, General Abramov launched an attack against Abdumalik Tura and mobilized 7 companies, 8 cannons and 2 hundred cossacks towards the city of Karshi[1]. On October 21, near Karshi, the detachment of Zarafshan district led by Major Noltse and Yasovu Prince defeated the 8000-strong army of

Abdumalik Tura. On October 22, the colonists conquered Karshi. During the occupation of the village, 13 soldiers of the invaders were killed and wounded[2]. At the same time, Amir Muzaffar takes back Karmana, Khatirchi, Nurota from Sultan Sadik. By order of Kaufman, Abramov was returned to the Bukhara Emirate of Karshi on October 27. Kaufman did not want to provoke a strong protest in England. Even the people of Bukharan were surprised by this situation. The defeated Abdumalik Tura and Sultan Sadik moved to the territory of the Khiva Khanate in December.

In 1870, the troops of the Turkestan military district invaded the Kashkadarya oasis again. The reason is that the resistance of the Bobobek and Jorabek in this area had not yet been broken. Kaufman was worried that the Kashkadarya beys were trying to communicate with the Afghan emir Sherali Khan. On August 8, 1870, General Abramov formed the "Shahrisabz detachment" of 1900 people, consisting of 9 companies, 2.5 hundred cossacks, 12 cannons and 8 rocket launchers[3]. The detachment was divided into two columns. The Jam column under the command of Colonel Mikhailov consisted of 5 companies of the 3rd Turkestan Line Battalion, 6,15th Orenburg hundred cossacks, 6 cannons from the 3rd Battery of the Turkestan artillery Brigade, Orenburg cossack cavalry artillery division, and 6 rocket launchers[4]. The Karatepa column under the command of lieutenant colonel Sokovnin consisted of 4 companies of the 9th line battalion, 0.5 hundred Siberian cossacks, 2 mountain cannons and 2 rocket launchers[5]. General-colonel Trotsky was appointed for general military operations, lieutenant-colonel Kobilinsky for the artillery units, lieutenant-colonel Bogaevsky for the sappers, and yasovul Prince for the cossack troops[6].

"Shahrisabz detachment" captured Shahrisabz and Kitab cities on August 13-14. More than 600 of the 8,000 townspeople who took part in the defensive battles were killed. Praporshik Kozlovsky and 18 ordinary soldiers from the Shakhrisabz detachment were killed[8]. General Abramov, staff officers colonel Mikhailovsky, lieutenant colonels Sokovnin, Raevsky, major Miller-Zakomelsky, ober-officers praporshik Mamin, lieutenant Morozov and 101 privates were wounded. On August 16, according to the agreement, General Abramov handed over Shahrisabz and Kitab to Tokhtamishbi, the emir's representative[9]. Thus, after Karshi, Kitab and Shahrisabz were returned to the rule of the emir with the help of the district troops. In 1868-1870, a total of 127 soldiers of the military district (8 officers) were killed and wounded in the battles in the Kashkadarya oasis[10].

In return for the defeat and dependence in 1868, the Emirate regained its territories in Eastern Bukhara (Shakhrisabz, Kitab, Karshi, Hisar, Kulob, Karategin, Darvaz) with the military and political support of Turkestan within 10 years. In Bukhara, the opposition that refused to submit to the colonial system was abolished, and internal political stability was restored in the vassal country. In June 1895, upon the initiative of General Vrevskiy, the commander of the Turkestan military district, the provinces of Rushon and Shugnan in the Pamirs were also given to the administration of Bukhara[11].

In 1885, the possibility of the district troops once again interfering in the political processes in the emirate increased. Amir Muzaffar died in 1885. At that time, there were many supporters of Abdumalik Tura in Bukhara, who was living in Afghanistan. His accession to the throne was the victory of Britain and Emir Abdurrahman. Therefore, the Turkestan military district began to prepare for emergency situations. In 1885, under the command of Grodekov, the governor of Syrdarya, 4 battalions, 6 cossack hundreds, and 12 cannons were prepared in Kattakurgan and Samarkand to support Crown Prince Abdulahad. General M. N. Annenkov, who is in charge of railway construction in the Bukhara region, officially informed Abdulahad that he could rely on Tashkent's support in case of conflicts with other princes (Muzaffar had 13 sons) for the throne[12]. The district sent scouts to Shakhrisabz, Karshi, and Hisar to investigate the events surrounding Abdumalik Tura. An additional 29 Cossacks were sent to guard the embassy in Bukhara[13]. However, no problems have arisen in the emirate. In November 1885, Abdulahad took the throne of the emirate without opposition.

The last military intervention of the colonial administration in Turkestan in the political processes of the Bukhara Emirate took place during the period of religious conflicts in 1910. In 1910, there was a religious confrontation between Sunnis and Shiites in the city of Bukhara. The main reason for the conflict was that Qushbegi Astanaqlu began to put Shias in the positions reserved for Sunnis in the administration and army.

On January 9 in Bukhara, a student of a Sunni madrasa was killed in a fight during the Shia holiday "Ashura". Ostanaqulbi arrested the students who appealed to punish the murderers. On January 10, an armed conflict began between Sunnis and Shiites. The political agent of the Russian Empire in Bukhara stated that the Russian troops would not interfere in the internal affairs of the emirate unless Astonokulbi requested it (the emir mainly lived in Karmana). General Lilienthal, the chief of staff of the 1st Turkestan Corps, personally came to New Bukhara on January 12, after the conflicts did not stop, with additional military forces. Lilienthal demanded serious measures from the emir, which showed its inaction around the clashes. Lilienthal warned Ostanaqulbi and Lutsh that if the riots happened again, the district troops would be forced to occupy Bukhara. On January 13, when religious conflicts continued again, Russian troops entered the city and put an end to the riots. More than 500 people from both sects were killed in religious clashes[14]. General Lilienthal, by order of the district commander Samsonov, kept part of the Russian troops until complete peace was established in the capital. But from a historical point of view, the entry of Russian troops into the capital was very painful.

The colonial administration in Turkestan constantly monitored the armed forces of Bukhara and opposed its strengthening of power. Turkestan has often interfered in the processes surrounding the Bukhara army. In 1877 Bukhara had 13,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry[15]. In Central Asia, during the period of increasing confrontation with Afghanistan and Great Britain, the colonial administration was interested in strengthening the emir's army at certain times. After all, the emir's army had to guard the southern borders of Turkestan. In 1885, the emir asked the Turkestan region for 12,000 berdanka rifles for his army[16]. Due to the Russo-Afghan military conflict in the Pande oasis, the strong propensity of Amir Abdurrahman to the British, and the increased threat from the southern borders of Turkestan through Bukhara, 1,000 berdanka rifles and about 100,000 bullets were delivered to Bukhara from the district[17].

In 1886-1887, there were reports that Emir Abdurakhman was preparing to start a war against Turkestan and Bukhara. On the eve of the possible war, the army of the Bukhara emirate consisted of only 12,000 people[18]. As a result, realizing that the emirate army alone could not stop the threat from the south, the commander of the okrug Rosenbach, started planning to deploy part of the soldiers of the Turkestan military district to the territory of Bukhara[19]. In 1886, an agreement was reached with the emir on this issue. Russian troops to be deployed in Bukhara were also needed to keep the existing regime in the emirate under control by military force in the future.

In December 1886, the 3rd Turkestan line battalion was deployed to Chorjoi. In May 1887, a garrison consisting of the 17th line battalion, 1 battery and 2 Astrakhan Cossack hundreds was formed in Kerki. In 1889, the 17th battalion was replaced by the 9th and 19th battalions[20]. In 1886-1888, the Chorjoi-Samarkand line of the Kaspiyorti military railway was completed. To protect the railway, in 1887, the 3-4 companies of the 2nd Caspian Railway Battalion of the Caucasus Military District were included in the troops of the Turkestan Military District[21]. They are mainly located at railway stations in Chorjoi, Kogon, and Samarkand. In addition to the land forces in Bukhara, the Amudarya flotilla was founded in Chorjoi in 1887. In 1894, the Bukhara-Afghan border was closed in order to stop British-Afghan goods from entering Bukhara. Border posts were established by the Turkestan military district in Kerki, Kalif, Chushka-Guzar, Patta-Hissar, Ayvadje, Sarai, Bogorak[22].

In the 90s of the 19th century, the district troops in Bukhara increased significantly. 1896 THO 1st Turkestan line brigade was formed and placed in the territory of the emirate. The 3rd, 9th, 13th, 14th, 19th battalions will be included in the brigade. In 1898, there were about 8,000 TMD troops in the territory of Bukhara[23]. In 1899, the 4th Rifle Brigade, 1 cossack regiment, and 1 cossack artillery battery from the 1st Turkestan army corps were in the territory of the emirate. In 1899-1901, the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th rifle battalions of the 4th Turkestan Rifle Brigade, 1 hundred of the 4th Orenburg regiment and the 2nd Orenburg cossack artillery battery were stationed in Termez, and 3 hundred of the 4th Orenburg regiment were stationed in Kerki[24]. In 1899, the 5th rifle brigade, 1 mountain battery and 1 fortress artillery company of the 2nd Turkestan army corps were also transferred to Bukhara. In 1899-1901, the 19th, 20th rifle battalions of the 5th rifle brigade of the 2nd Turkestan army corps, the 3rd Transkaspiian mountain battery, 1 fortress artillery company to Kerki, the 17th rifle of the 5th rifle brigade The battalion was deployed in Chorjoi[25].

**Turkestan district troops in Termez, Chorjoi, kerki (in 1901):[26]**

№	Location	Military unit	officer	Ordinary sl.	All
1	Termez 3345 men	13,15,16 <sup>th</sup> rifle battalions	63	1616	1679
		4 <sup>th</sup> Orenburg reg: 1 hundred	3	122	124
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Orenburg cossack battery	10	130	144
2	Kerki 2730 kishi	19,20 <sup>th</sup> rifle battalions	41	1217	1258
		4 <sup>th</sup> Orenburg reg: 3 hundred	13	363	379
		3 <sup>rd</sup> battery (2 <sup>nd</sup> brigade)	6	214	218
		Rortress artillery company	3	89	92
3	Chorjoi	17 <sup>th</sup> rifle battalions	22	636	688

In the years under review, the provision of weapons to Bukhara by the military district, the sending of military instructors, and the emir's annual spending of huge amounts of money could not improve the quality of the Bukhara army. The Amir's large army proved to be a useless ally to the district's troops in the face of the threat from the south. On the contrary, this large army could threaten the internal stability of the country itself. In the 90s of the 19th century, the Bukhara army numbered around 20,000[27]. Amir Abdulahad spent a lot of money - 1,308,867 rubles per year for military expenses[28].

In 1894, THO commander Vrevskiy asked the military minister Vannovsky to disband the Emirate army. Vrevskii said that this army is useless, that more than half of the emirate's income is spent on it, and that the guarantee of the emir's power still depends on the Russian troops in Turkestan. Vrevskii Amir Abdulahad to create a regular army of 5900 men, consisting of 5.5 infantry battalions, 1 rifle company, 1 cavalry regiment, 1 artillery team and 1 palace guard unit, instead of the existing army in Bukhara, and proposes to reduce annual military expenses by 559,339 rubles[29]. But the emir did not accept the offer.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, in the 1970s and 1990s, after preventing the British from entering Central Asia through Afghanistan, the Turkestan Military District deployed its troops along the Bukhara-Afghanistan border. And he strengthened his military positions in this area. During this period, an important consequence of the political tension between Russia-England and Bukhara-Afghanistan was that the military influence of the Turkestan military district and the Russian Empire over the Bukhara Emirate increased even more.

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