

**THE ROLE OF THE TURKESTAN DEPARTMENT OF THE RUSSIAN
GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND
EDUCATION IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Mullajanova Khosiyat Yazdongulovna

teacher of department of Social

Sciences of Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service

Abstract: This article indicates the role of the Turkestan department of the Russian Geographical Society in the scientific and educational spheres of Turkestan. The main task was the elimination of illiteracy, as well as the implementation of projects for the organization of higher educational institutions in Turkestan.

Key words: Turkestan department of the Russian Geographical Society, Central Asia, education, scientific medical and biological research, "Turkestan Gazette".

One of such important historical objects that made a significant contribution to the development of the science of history and geography is the establishment of the Central Asian Geographical Society in Turkestan in August 1845 (1-38) Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Empire Count L.A. Perovsky on the establishment of the Russian Geographical Society in St. Petersburg, which was later renamed the Imperial Russian Geographical Society in December 1849. The works of scientists who are members of the Central Asian Geographical Society are invaluable sources, a unique type of historiography of our region. The Central Asian Geographical Society is one of the oldest scientific societies in the republic. It was founded in 1897. At that time it was called the Turkestan branch of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society in Tashkent. From the very beginning, one of the main tasks of the Turkestan branch of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society was to publish research materials on the nature, population and economy of the country. The first meeting of the Turkestan branch was held, where the charter of the IRGO Turkestan branch was adopted, according to which the main task of the branch was to study the region geographically and statistically, as well as to promote scientific knowledge. , Jilinsky was elected as the chairman. In the early years of the IRGO Turkestan department, the main directions of expedition research were the study of large lakes.

Analysis of literature on the topic:

Research methods: In the research process, general scientific methods of knowledge were used, in particular, systematic approach, historical approach, unit of logical analysis methods.

Conclusions and suggestions: In 1898, the first volume of "News of the Turkestan Department of the Imperial Geographical Society" was published. Until 1918, 14 volumes of works of the IRGO Turkestan department were published under this name. In addition, some volumes consisted of several issues. The results of the society's expeditions were published in these scientific works (2-78). The largest of them was the Island expedition. The historiography of the expeditions of the late 19th and early 20th centuries belongs to the classical period. During this period, with the efforts of great tourists and natural scientists of their time, P.P. Semenov-Tyanshansky, N.A. Severtsov A.P. Fedchenko, I.V. Mushketov, V.F. Oshanin, L.S. Berg, N.G. Mallitsky S. N. Zhilinsky formed a scientific idea about the physical-geographical country of Central Asia. The formation of new ideas about the nature of the study of Central Asia V.V. Barthold in his essay "Information about the Aral Sea and the lower reaches of the Amudarya from ancient times to the 12th century" The topic of research is relevant because at present in the

conditions of independence there are opportunities for wide involvement of scientific literature and as a result there is a need to summarize and systematize all sources of study and critical understanding of scientific literature, an analytical study of a wide range of issues reflecting the essence of the research activities of the society will help, firstly, on the basis of the analysis of sources to better comprehend the works of scientists their contribution to the development of science, and secondly, an in-depth study of expeditions subsequently reveals the entire geographical and cultural side of the region.

A certain aspect of this task is the study of the history of the Turkestan Russian Geographical Society, the works and research works of which give a certain idea of the economy, social development, culture of the peoples of Turkestan. Almost all the expeditions of this period that laid the foundation for physical and geographical knowledge about Central Asia were organized and covered in the scientific community by the Imperial Russian Geographical Society. An active role in the activities of the Turkestan Department of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society from the first days of its creation was played by entomologist and traveler V. F. Oshanin, historian and geographer N.G. Mallitsky, archaeologist I.G. Poslavsky, a classic of Russian physical geography L.S. Berg. In total, in the first year of work of the Turkestan department, there were 72 scientists. Also paying attention to a number of research essays, we can note the works of outstanding researchers such as A.P. Fedchenko "Journey to Turkestan: Member of the founder of the society A.P. Fedchenko committed from the Imperial Society of Natural History Lovers on behalf of K.P. von Kaufmann" Classic work by L.S. Berga "Aral Sea. Experience of physical and geographical monograph," I.C. Mushketov, who was the first to make a fundamental scientific description of the Turkestan region in the book "Turkestan. Geological and orographic description according to data collected during travel from 1874 to 1881," and a number of other scientific works. At the same time, there are two characteristic features in the activities of society.

Firstly, the government policy subordinates the organizational structure for its purposes and secondly, the desire of advanced scientists to provide favorable conditions for the scientific, cultural and educational activities of society through democratization and accessibility of society to broad strata of the intelligentsia, these features are especially manifested in the scientific activities of society. These interests were also determined by the methods of research in the works of society to study the problem. A large number of static data and calculations, systematization and integration of the collected scientific material are given. In the proper geographical sense, the basics of physical and economic geography of the region, hydrography, climatology, soil science and other disciplines are being formalized. One of the main aspects in the work of the region is the subsequent close contact with the guides and the population along the route of the expedition. (3-92) The methodological basis for the study of society's scientists was programs and instructions. They were compiled at the level of scientific and achievements of their time. The activities of the society were largely based on expeditions that later gained world fame. An important source for studying the scientific and organized activities of the society is also the newspaper *Turkestanskije Vedomosti*, which published in Tashkent during 1870-1918. Being the largest official newspaper in Central Asia of that period, it regularly placed on its pages materials of a scientific nature and various messages related to the scientific and organized activities of the society (reports on the agendas of general meetings, a brief report on the progress of certain expeditions, the publication of various scientific works) is especially worth mentioning about such a unique publication as the *Turkestan collection*, which is a collection of materials related to the history of scientific research and other issues of the life of Central Asia united in 597 volumes here also Contains valuable materials covering the activities of the society during the research period. The main goal was to study the region in a

geographical natural and static relationship, but measures were also taken to study the life of the population and its past. At the end of the first year of its existence, the department counted 78 members. The position of the branch of the central scientific organization on the one hand and the great responsibility coming from its own budget and patronage from the local administrative authorities, as a rule, the chairmen of the departments of the society on the ground were governors or general governors of the region or province where they opened, making them both a scientific and organizational center for local research and a base for expeditionary work organized in the center of the All-Russian region. (4-65).

The creation of a society can be considered as a phase of the united research forces of Central Asia. The formulation of the goals of the activities of the Turskestan department is clearly traced. An attempt to comprehensively combine all the scientific data of various studies to create a complete and complete picture of the newly mastered organization of Central Asia. From the whole spectrum of historical sciences, ethnography and archaeology research in the field of which were most significant and at the same time inaccurately covered in modern historiography were selected for consideration. Thus, by the time of the organization of TORGO on ethnography of the people, numerous, although now observations had already been carried out. They mainly concerned the urban population on the territory of the Turkestan Governorate General as well as the population of the Mountainous areas (5-19).

In 1917, the Russian Geographical Society ceased to be called the prefix Imperial in connection with the well-known historical events of 100 years ago. At the same time, the Turkestan Department was preserved in the structure of the Russian Geographical Society.

In 1925, it was transformed into the Central Asian Department of the State Geographical Society. In 1934, the Central Asian Department of the State Geographical Society was renamed the Uzbek Geographical Society. During this period, such scientists as N.L. were engaged in research activities. Korzhenevsky, who has great merits in the study of the Pamirs, as a geographer and researcher, he made a huge contribution to the development of glaciological science. N. City Mallitsky also continued his work. By this period, his monograph "Mahalli and Mauze of Tashkent" is published. In the 1920s, he conducted a variety of studies on geography, toponymy and ethnography of Central Asia. The first experiments of climatographic description of Central Asia and its parts as well as climatic zoning of the region belong to L.A. Molchanov, which were published in 1922-1924. Molchanov's scientific works include such publications as "Climate of Uzbekistan", "Climatic conditions of the warmest regions of Central Asia" and others. And also Molchanov was engaged in geological, lymnological and ornitological research, the results of which are reflected in a number of scientific monographs of the scientist. In the development of the hydrological science of Central Asia, V.L. Schultz, the founder of the scientific school of mountain hydrology of Central Asia, made a huge contribution.

He took an active part in the scientific justification of many significant water management projects in Uzbekistan. In his work "Rivers of Central Asia" a classification of the rivers of the region was developed, and long-term research of the scientist in the field of nutrition of the rivers of Central Asia was summarized at a fundamental level. In the following years, V.L. Schultz published such major works as "The melting of snowmen of Central Asia" and "Hydrography of Central Asia". A significant contribution to the study of the history of geography was made by the scientist A.A. Azatyan owns such scientific publications as "Central Asia and Kazakhstan", "Outstanding Researchers of the Nature of Central Asia", "Geographic Society and its role in the study of Central Asia". After gaining independence in 1991, the professional association of geographers of our country became known as the Geographical Society of Uzbekistan. Over the

years of independence, many interesting scientific works have appeared in the republic, in which qualitatively new theoretical and methodological positions in line with the national and global principles of scientific knowledge, where the results of research of Central Asian society are rethought. Among them, the activity of the scientist A.M. Akramkhodzhayev, he contributed to the organizational development of the Society, is also the founder of the Uzbek scientific school in the field of petroleum geology. His companion is the researcher of modern geography Akramov Z. M. who made a great personal contribution to the process of preparing the atlas of the Uzbek SSR - the first comprehensive geographical atlas of the Union Republic published in two volumes. Many years of activity of Professor Z.M. Akramov seems to be a huge and multifaceted work on the development of geographical science and education, the promotion of geographical knowledge among the broad masses of the population.

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