

# Trade relations of the between Afghanistan and Russian Empire

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**Abstract:** *The issue of Central Asia began to become clear abroad in the 19th century. The British capitalists turned Iran and almost at the same time Afghanistan into an arena of political conspiracy, movement and aggression. Afghanistan interested British capitalists not as a trading market, but as a to carry out aggressive actions against neighboring countries and especially Central Asia in the first place. This article discusses the role of trade relations in Afghanistan's relations with the Russian Empire.*

**Keywords:** Afghanistan, Russia, trade, Anglo-Russian competition, India

## I. Introduction.

The British ruling circles, which attached great political importance to these states, did not forget to seize their economic opportunities and, at times, to realize these opportunities using the East India Company. As early as 1813, the company lost its trade monopoly in India, and in 1883 its trade monopoly in China was abolished. The charter has also expired again, renewing previous discussions on the same issues, but this time the advantage was on the side of free trade fighters. All traders had the right to trade with China; thus the monopoly of the last trading company directed against private trade was abolished.

Such political and economic measures by the British government were a sign of an industrial revolution in England. F., who considered the economic history of England. Ya. Polyansky writes: "The industrial turn must simply come from the fact that industrial production was formed not by the growth of exports or imports, but by the factory system of capitalism and its victory. That is why such a turn began with the emergence of factories in the 1970s and ended in 1825 after the victory of capitalism over handicrafts and manufacturing in the factory system. The fact is that from 1825 onwards, the movement of the British economy became periodic[1]"

The end of the industrial revolution in England led not only to the economic growth of the country, but also to unprecedented economic and political expansion. This explains the travel of East India Company agents from 1810 to the late 1930s in Afghanistan and Central Asia[2]. The crises of 1825 and 1836 had a significant impact on British trade and foreign policy. In the words of politicians of the time, these crises were "caused by overproduction of factory products [3]. Due to the crisis of 1825, the demand for British goods rose to 7,334,572 f.st., and in 1836 to 11,297,828 f.st.

The crisis of overproduction forced the British capitalists to find new trade markets. Deprived of a monopoly on Indian and Chinese trade, the East India Company became not only an "government" organization of India, but also an active leader of British expansion in the East. During these years,

books by tourists visiting Afghanistan and Central Asia appeared. They considered the possibility of organizing a fair in India to create a warehouse for British goods in Central Asia.

It was during these years that measures were taken to develop the Afghan and Central Asian markets. In 1836 he was sent to Kabul. In addition to political issues, Burns was tasked with identifying issues related to the conclusion of trade agreements, such as the management of shipping on the Indus and Kabul rivers, and the organization of fairs. Simultaneously, a batch of English cloth belonging to Captain Wade was sent to Kabul and Bukhara[4].

## II. Discussion.

The measures taken by the British government and the plans to develop the markets of Afghanistan and Central Asia at that time were supported by British industrialists and traders. John Adam, who represented the interests of British trade and industry, described British policy in Central Asia as "concrete steps to expand British trade in this part of the world" and said it should "open Central Asia to British trade and allow it to compete with Russian competitors [5]".

The evidence cited reflects the efforts of the British Indian government in the first quarter of the 19th century to seize the markets of Afghanistan and Central Asia. The trade period in Central Asia did not, at least, account for a significant percentage of British foreign trade. The ring travel data of British travelers cannot give a clear picture of British trade in Afghanistan and Central Asia. We have only some digital data of British goods exported to Kabul and Bukhara markets. But this information does not fully justify the trust. A. Burns said British and Indian goods were "brought to Kabul" around two thousand camel loads (about 448 tons). Half of these cattle, A. According to Burns, it was brought to Bukhara [6].

According to Masson, the value of trade with Kabul in 1834 alone was \$ 1 million. f. st. reached The figures provided are inaccurate and do not reflect the position of British goods in the markets of Kabul and Bukhara[6].

Among the goods imported to Afghanistan and Central Asia, most were imported from India. N., who has studied Afghan foreign trade. M. Gurevich wrote: "Until the middle of the nineteenth century, the decisive role in exports from India to Afghanistan was played by the urban handicrafts and agricultural products of the nearby Indian districts." The author's estimate for 1838 was that the annual production of English textiles in Kabul was 478,000 rupees, while that of India was 933,000 rupees. These indicators are N. M. Found by Thurenton by Gurevich, it characterizes the state of British-Afghan trade in 1838, when the first British-Afghan war broke out, disrupting the normal trading process. Moreover, this data corresponds to the so-called "unprecedented slowdown of 1838-1842."

Although these materials do not allow us to determine the position of British goods in the markets of Afghanistan and Central Asia, they indicate that the British made decisive efforts to capture these markets as early as the first quarter of the XIX century. Under these conditions, "before the Afghan war and the conquest of Sindh and Punjab, British trade in Central Asia was almost zero." The British's efforts to monopolize economic and political dominance in the East were opposed by other European states, particularly Russia, where industry, especially the textile industry, began to develop in the early 19th century.

If in England in the first quarter of the XIX century the industrial revolution was almost over, then in Russia, according to many Soviet historians, by the 30s of the XIX century came the introduction of machine building. Speaking about the industrial revolution in Russia, G. S. Isaev concludes: "The industrial revolution in Russia began in the 1930s with the systematic use of machines in certain industries [7]".

The Russian government introduced various measures to develop industry and expand domestic and foreign trade. Thus, in 1810, a definition was introduced prohibiting the entry of European goods into Russia. Similar definitions were introduced in 1822. "This (definition of 1822 - A. S.) was a strong impetus for the newly developing industry of the Moscow province. Under the influence of this definition, the whole industry began to develop rapidly in Moscow and the whole province. As early as 1804, a decision was made to increase the number of sheep to develop sheep production. According to this decision, persons wishing to engage in merino breeding could take state lands from the southern part of the country and inherit these lands if the economy was well managed. In 1818, the Merchant Bank, based on the May 7, 1917 manifesto, began operations. The establishment of a merchant bank was to be aimed at the development of Russian trade and industry. From 1829 onwards, public exhibitions of Russian manufactures began to be held regularly in Russia. In order not only to protect national industry from European competition, but also

to develop it as much as possible, the Russian government made every effort to develop trade relations with Central Asia, not only to develop trade relations with Central Asian khanates, but also to prevent European, mainly British goods from entering these markets.

In the first decade of the nineteenth century, most Russian enterprises were handicraft-based and home-craft-related manufactories. In the 1920s, Russia achieved a number of successes in the industrial sector, especially in the textile industry. At the same time, there is an increase in the production of leather and metal processing enterprises. However, the expansion of semi-transparent types of production, in which manual labor is widely used, had no effect on the increase in output and its competitiveness. Apparently, this is the reason for the further development of the industry and the fact that the commercial industry demands restrictive definitions for European goods.

Even the relative development of Russian industry has led to the gradual expansion of trade relations with Eastern countries. Russian goods had buyers in Iran, the Kazakh steppes, the Central Asian khanates, China, and partly in Afghanistan. It should be noted that trade with Eastern countries does not account for a large percentage of Russia's foreign trade. The import of Russian goods into these countries in the 1930s accounted for more than 6% of Russia's total exports. Exports of Russian goods attracted a lot of attention. If in 1807 it amounted to 53,565,000 rubles, then by 1820 the export of goods amounted to 222,502,000 rubles, and in 1830 to 251,161,000 rubles. Accordingly, the value of exports to the countries of the East also increased from 3,598,000 rubles to 12,765,000 rubles, and in 1830 to 15,792,000 rubles. Digital data show that (while exports to Asia have a stable percentage) the export of Russian goods to the East has been growing. This is very important because the market value of sales is determined not by the percentage of total export products, but by the total and quantitative expression, or the percentage of growth in that market.

### III. Conclusion.

The following made up the bulk of imported items until the 1920s: fur, leather goods, wool, woven fabrics and metalware. It is noted that since the 1920s, ie towards the end of the first quarter of the XIX century, the range of goods exported from Russia to the East has expanded. Russian entrepreneurs have mastered the production of silk and cotton fabrics, which are widely sold in these countries.

If we look at the export of cotton fabrics, the total export of these products in 1820 amounted to 1,237,000 rubles. In Eastern countries, 1,091,000 rubles, or 88.2% of the total amount of cotton fabrics exported from Russia. The export of these fabrics in 1830 amounted to 4,644,000 rubles, while in the East

it amounted to 4,371,000 rubles, or 94.1% of the total exports of cotton fabrics.

Exports to the Kazakh steppes and Central Asian khanates account for 38-50% of the cotton fabrics exported to Asian countries.

As for imports from Central Asia and the Kazakh steppes, it has increased exports in the first three decades. If in 1807 Russia's imports to Central Asia amounted to 3,589,000 rubles and exports to 7,799,000 rubles, then by 1829 Russia's imports to Asian countries amounted to 20,156,000 rubles, and its exports from these countries amounted to 24,183,000 rubles. The volume of imports from Asian countries exceeded the volume of exports, but the discrepancy gradually decreased.

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