

## History of Khiva Khanate's Diplomatic Relations with Russia (Late XIX and Early XXIII Centuries)

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### Abstract:

This article is dedicated to the history of relations between the Khiva Khanate and the Russian Empire in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Keywords:** Khiva Khanate, Russian Empire, Gadumian Treaty, Dependence, Amudarya Branch, Consul, Diplomatic Representative, "Diplomatic Officer", Elder, Muhammad Rahimkhan, Asfandiorkhan, Judge, Firm.

### Introduction.

The treaty, which defined relations between the two countries after the Khiva Khanate was occupied by the Russian Empire in 1873, was signed on August 12, 1873 in Gandumiyon Park near Khiva by Khiva Khan Muhammad Rahimkhan (1864-1910) and Governor-General of Turkestan von Kaufmann. That is why this agreement went down in history as the Gandumiyon Treaty. According to the agreement, the Khiva khanate was completely deprived of its political independence and became a state dependent on Russia, and accordingly the order of diplomatic relations was introduced..

### Review of the literature on the subject.

The article is based on documents stored in the funds I-1, I-2 of the National Archives of Uzbekistan, mainly in the court of the Governor-General of Turkestan of the Russian Empire, which is responsible for relations with the Khiva Khanate and the Emirate of Bukhara. It is known that any correspondence with the khans of Khiva and Bukhara, the governors-general of Turkestan, the Government of the Russian Empire, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other responsible agencies was carried out through a "diplomatic official" directly subordinate to the governor-general of Turkestan. Also, during this period, relations between the Khiva Khanate and the Russian Empire were carried out through the head of the Amudarya branch of the Governor-General of Turkestan. These funds contain very rare treaties, letters, decisions, orders, protocols, information, reports and other documents related to the relations between the Khiva Khanate and the Russian Empire in the late XIX and early XX centuries, the study and analysis of which allows for clarification of many historical issues.

The study also used Uzbek and Russian versions of the Gandumiyon Treaty, published by the researcher of the Institute of Oriental Studies named after Abu Rayhon Beruni of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the collection "Oriental Studies".

### Theoretical and methodological bases of research.

The research process used the methods of historical objectivity, problem-chronological and comparative analysis, statistical analysis and historical-comparative, problem-periodic, systematic analysis.

**Analysis and results:**

According to the Treaty of Gandumiyon, the lands on the right bank of the Amu Darya were separated from the Khiva Khanate, where the Amudarya branch was established within the Syrdarya region of the Governor-General of Turkestan. In accordance with the "Regulations on the Administration of the Turkestan Territory" adopted in the Russian Empire in 1886, the head of the Amudarya branch was entrusted with the comprehensive, complete control over the life of the Khiva Khanate, as well as acting as a representative (ambassador) of the Russian Empire in the Khiva Khanate. The powers of the head of this administrative department were very wide, and any relations with the Khiva khanate were carried out only through this official, and the head of the Amudarya department was directly subordinated to the governor-general of Turkestan, contrary to the procedures established in the empire [3.page-4]. Because, according to the "Regulations on the management of the Turkestan region" approved by Emperor Alexander III (1881-1894) in 1886, the Amudarya branch was part of the Syrdarya region, and the head of the department was subordinated to the head of the region. Due to the special attention and responsibility of the Russian authorities to the relations with the Khiva khanate, it is possible to conclude that such a situation satisfied them.

The administrative center of the Amudarya department is the city of Petro-Alexandrovsk (now Turtkul), where the office of the head of the department is located. Initially, the department was headed by Colonel M. Galkin [4]. For this purpose, a special position of the second assistant head of the Amudarya department was introduced [5. page 130]. At the disposal of the assistant was a separate chancellery, in which diplomatic staff, translators worked. These officers of the Amudarya department, in response to the text, content and quality of official correspondence with the Khiva khanate, controlled the entry and exit of any documents issued through the head of the department. All official documents related to the Khiva Khanate were kept under the supervision and guidance of a special official who held the position of "Diplomatic Officer" in the court of the Governor-General of Turkestan. This official was responsible for the proper conduct of relations with the Khiva Khanate and the Emirate of Bukhara [6. sheet 62]. The incumbent also reports to the Russian Foreign Ministry [7. page 83]. At the same time, due to the steady growth of bilateral economic and trade relations, the Consulate General of the Russian Empire in Khiva operated in the city of New Urgench, the largest center of trade, industry and banking capital of the Khiva Khanate [8. sheet-1].

In addition, the post of Khiva Khanate Consul, ie diplomatic representative, was established in Petro-Alexandrovsk to promptly resolve various problems and issues arising in bilateral relations, to provide practical assistance in the development of economic and trade relations [9. sheet-12]. The Consul of the Khiva Khanate permanently lived in Petro-Alexandrovsk. Nurmuhhammadboy Aminiddinbaev, who was considered one of the khan's trusted officials for many years, successfully fulfilled this task [9. page 12]. Correspondence has so far been conducted in the official languages of both countries, ie all letters and official documents issued in Khiva have been written in Uzbek and delivered to the Amudarya branch through the Khiva consulate. The necessary translations were made by the staff of the department and then sent to Tashkent. However, in 1896, at the suggestion of the head of the Amudarya department to finish correspondence from the Khiva khanate in Russian, Ahmadjon Agaev, a Russian citizen of Tatar descent, fluent in the local Uzbek language and with translation experience, was invited to work in Khiva [6. sheet 62]. Its main task was to prepare official diplomatic letters and documents from the Khiva khanate through Petro-Alexandrovsk, under the supervision of the head of the Amudarya department, to various departments of the Russian Empire, as well as to teach Russian to some Khiva government officials.

During the period of dependence, the Khiva Khanate and Russia did not have embassy relations or diplomatic relations in accordance with international law. Any problems and disagreements were resolved at the level of the head of the Amudarya department or through a diplomatic official in the

court of the Governor-General of Turkestan. Muhammad Rahimkhan II and Prime Minister Islam Khoja have visited Russia several times. The businessman-minister was one of the guides of the ongoing reforms in Khiva. As a result of the visits, he was able to open a modern post office in Khiva, build a European hospital, schools, and bring technical innovations.

Khan of Khiva Asfandiyorkhan (1910-1918), who was still visiting Russia during his reign. One of the official documents sent to the Diplomatic Officer by the Court of the Governor-General of Turkestan on June 7, 1909 reads as follows: "... Tomorrow, June 8, ambassadors led by the Crown Prince of Khiva Khanate Asfandiyor Tora will arrive in Tashkent by post train. The group of ambassadors includes four dignitaries, Captain Husainbek, Abdulla Madrasul, Mirza Matvafo Yusupov, translator Kornilov, five mahrams and ten servants. Major-General Blumer is assigned to go to the station, meet the ambassadors and accompany him during his stay in Tashkent "[10. page 32]. The instructions attached to this document detail all the procedures for meeting ambassadors, placing them in a hotel, setting a table in their honor, and even, during the reception, who will speak and how [10. page 36]. Later, after ascending the throne of the Khiva khanate, Asfandiyarkhan visited Russia many times. These visits were not for the purpose of establishing interstate relations, formal negotiations, concluding agreements within the framework of international diplomatic rules, but mainly for private visits of Asfandiyarkhan. During his visits to Tashkent, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Crimea, Asfandiyarkhan, who thought only of his personal well-being, squandered the money earned by the people of Khiva on his forehead. He also made donations. For example, when he arrived in Tashkent in February 1917 to visit St. Petersburg, he presented the Governor-General of Turkestan with a "gift" of 10,000 rubles. In addition, the representative of the Tashkent Women's Committee Erofeeva donated 2,500 rubles to Klavdiya Semyonovna, 2,500 rubles to the "Yasli" orphanage, 1,000 rubles to the Turkestan Charitable Foundation, 600 rubles to the military hospital of the Caucasus Army, a total of 16,600 rubles until October 1917. is done [11. sheet 6]. Interestingly, not a single ruble of the entrusted funds reached the local Muslim population, but only to citizens of European descent.

It is known that many Khiva citizens regularly visit Russia and Turkestan for commercial or civil purposes. Some have lived permanently in cities where they are comfortable to live. Therefore, on the initiative of Khiva Khan Muhammad Rahimkhan, the post of special representative and elder of the Khiva government will be established in various cities of Turkestan. The procedure for approving Khiva representatives for this position was carried out in accordance with the order of the Governor-General of Turkestan, approved on April 28, 1899. [11. page 66]. On this basis, on the recommendation of the Khiva khan, a citizen of Khiva, Dostman Mahkam Kuliev, was appointed an elder of the Khiva people living in and around Ashgabat, the capital of the Transcaspian region [11. page 66]. In the same order, on the recommendation of the Khiva khan, a special letter from the Khiva government, Otajon Avazniyozov became the elder of the Khiva people living in the city and district of Merv, first Muhammadshirin Muhammad Yakubov, the elder of the Khiva people in the city and district of Chorjoi, first Vaisov Khudayber. , then Muhammadaminboy Avazmuhammedovs were appointed [11. page 24].

Russian citizens, traders and businessmen began to flock to the country in order to develop the economic resources of the Khiva khanate and earn more money. By the beginning of the 20th century, more than 30 firms and companies belonging to the largest business circles of the Russian Empire, operating in many countries around the world, and hundreds of small entrepreneurs were operating in the Khiva Khanate. Accordingly, the number of immigrants from the Russian Empire also increased, and there are reports that more than 1,500 Russian citizens lived in the Khiva Khanate at that time [11. page 24]. In addition, every year hundreds of Russian citizens came to the Khiva Khanate from the Russian Empire for commercial and other purposes. On the instructions of the

Russian emperor, the senator came to inspect the social and economic situation in the country. [12. page 35]. As a result, the decisions and rulings of the Judicial System of the Russian Empire, as in the whole of Turkestan, are mandatory in the territory of the Khiva Khanate, and are strictly enforced even by the citizens of Khiva [5. sheet 83.]. For this purpose, it is planned to organize mobile sessions of the Samarkand district court in the cities of New Urgench and Petro-Alexandrovsk, and permanent posts of court investigators will be established in these cities [5. sheet 83.]. Not limited to this, Russian officials succeeded in passing the Law No. 28 "On the Application of Russian Jurisdiction in the Khiva Khanate", approved on June 1, 1912 in the highest circles of the Russian Empire. According to him, from January 1, 1913, the position of an independent arbitrator was established to operate in the territory of the Khiva Khanate [12. page 35]. The decisions of this court were equally valid for Russian and Khiva citizens [12. page 35].

Such actions of the Russian authorities can be explained by the fact that the Khiva khanate was a violation of the sovereign rights of the khanate as a separate state. In fact, the idea of abolishing the Khiva Khanate altogether, turning it into a separate province of the Russian Empire, began to be discussed in the media. For example, in the 132nd issue of the *Utro Rossii* newspaper, published in the Russian Empire in 1912, an article was published entitled "Isn't it time to turn Khiva into a Russian province?" [13. page 72]. According to it, the abolition of the Khiva Khanate and its transformation into a Russian province would bring "civilization to a savage, backward local people." However, Russian authorities have ignored the issue in the face of impending international tensions and the threat of war. However, the issue of Khiva, its socio-economic and political life was constantly in the spotlight of high-ranking officials in the capital of the Russian Empire. On March 11, 1913, at a special meeting of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the issue of "the situation in Bukhara and Khiva" was discussed in detail [8. sheet-1]. The meeting was attended by members of the Council of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the head of the Asian Department of the General Staff, the Political Agent of Russia in Bukhara, the Consul General in Urgench and a diplomatic official and other officials of the Governor-General of Turkestan [8. sheet-1]. All aspects of the life of the Khiva Khanate, as well as the economic situation, socio-political, religious and ethnic situation in Khiva were discussed at the meeting.

### **Conclusions and suggestions:**

In conclusion:

First, after the Russian invasion of the Khiva Khanate in 1873, it was deprived of political independence and its right to establish diplomatic relations with other countries was restricted. It has been established that such relations with Russia are possible. Secondly, the head of the Amudarya branch of the Governor-General of Turkestan also served as the representative (ambassador) of the Russian Empire in the Khiva khanate. Thirdly, at the initiative of the Khiva khanate in the late XIX and early XX centuries in Petro-Alexandrovsk (now Turtkul), the center of the Amudarya branch, there was a diplomatic representative of the Khiva khanate - Consul.

Fourth, in some cities of the Governor-General of Turkestan, there were elders appointed by the khan of Khiva, who were engaged in the protection of the rights of the citizens of Khiva.

Based on the comparative analysis performed in this article, the following suggestions can be made:

First, the study of documents stored in the funds I-1, I-2 of the National Archives of Uzbekistan will provide a deeper understanding of the relations between Khiva and Russia in this period.

Second, the systematization of the documents in these funds and their publication as a collection in Uzbek and Russian would be much more convenient for researchers.

Thirdly, it would be expedient to further study and analyze the information on diplomatic positions

and individuals mentioned in the article for the first time and disseminate it to the general scientific community.

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