



BRILL



ORIENTE MODERNO (2020) 57-74

ORIENTE
MODERNO

brill.com/ormo

Scholarships of Emirs of Bukhara

Oybek Klichev

Bukhara State University, Bukhara, Uzbekistan

klichev_oybek@mail.ru

Abstract

Based on the study of diplomatic correspondence between the Bukhara emirate and the Russian Empire, this article highlights the issues of granting scholarships issued at the expense of the Bukhara government to gifted and low-income students of secondary specialized, vocational educational institutions functioned in the regions of the Turkestan Governorate-General. Also, such important aspects of this problem as educational institutions that received scholarships of the Bukhara government, the conditions for their appointment, the size and terms of the scholarships, and the choice of scholarship holders, etc. were analyzed in detail.

Keywords

Emir of Bukhara – the Turkestan Governorate-General – scholarship – diplomatic correspondence – scholarship holder

Introduction

The analysis of the accessible literature and research show the lack of necessary level of study the measures on the establishment of Bukhara Emirate's scholarship in the educational facilities in the regions of the Governorate-General of Turkestan by the Bukhara emirs, the peculiarities of selection of candidates for the scholarship and their significance in the relations of the emirate and the Russian Empire. This research reveals the scholarships and the rules of their assignment in the several educational institutions of the Emirate of Bukhara in the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century on the basis of existing sources of Central state archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The competition for scholarships established on the basis of donations of Emir Abdulakhad and Emir Alimkhan and the important data on the religious, social background of the scholarship winners in the Tashkent Real School, Tashkent Cadet Corps are substantiated and scientifically analysed in the first part of the article.

The in-depth scrutiny of scholarships launched in order to be focussed on the citizens of the Emirate in Tashkent Teacher's Seminary (*Tashkentskaya uchitel'skaya seminariya*) and the official intergovernmental correspondence on activities of students who won them make the second part of this research.

At the same time there is a thorough study of the scholarship established in the Empress Maria's orphanage in Yekaterinburg (*Detskij priyut imperatritsy Marii*), Russian Empire on the basis of endowment of Emir of Bukhara was conducted in the article.

The end of 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is regarded as by its complex, frequently contradictory changes in the political, socio-economic and cultural life of Emirate of Bukhara.¹ Multifariously cooperated with the Governorate-General of Turkestan² and the Russian Empire the Emirate became involved in the orbit of those positive trends, which occurred in the Empire, particularly in the sphere of education. In the short period of time new method³ Russian-local schools,⁴ pre-gymnasiums,⁵ gymnasiums and several professional colleges were established in Bukhara Emirate and Governorate-General of Turkestan under the auspices of actively functioning schools.

Promotion of literacy and talents was one of the distinguishing peculiarities of Uzbeks in the whole historical period of rulers. The emirs of Bukhara for several centuries contributed a lot to the education and enlightenment. Madrassas which conducted their activities as the existing system of higher education of the Emirate, and also listeners studying in these madrassas

1 The Emirate of Bukhara has been a late medieval state formation, stretching to the territories of contemporary Uzbekistan, parts of Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Kirgizia and Turkmenistan. It existed from 1753 till 1920.

2 Turkestan was a governorship general-administrative territorial unit which was formed in the occupied territory of West Turkestan. It existed from 1867 to 1917.

3 New method schools were special schools in the emirate of Bukhara with new curriculum having secular character. These schools were opened in the end of 19th century and the beginning of 20th century.

4 Russian-local schools were joint schools, where the teaching was conducted in Russian and local languages.

5 Pre-gymnasiums, gymnasiums and boarding schools were medium secondary and vocational educational facilities of Russian empire in Bukhara. The alumni of the Russian-local schools studied there.

weren't deprived of the attention of the representatives of the Government of Emirate.

The tradition of supporting the talented students and education in the madrassa was also maintained during the period of reign of the last emirs from the Mangit dynasty. Till the mid-19th century 800 listeners of the madrassas of Emirate of Bukhara studying the "Khidoya-i sharif" (حیدای شریف) were paid corresponding scholarship "dakhyak" (دهیک).⁶ During the reign of the emir Muzaffarkhan the number of distributed "dakhyak"s increased up to 200. This number was 900 in Bukhara, and 200 in Shakhrisabz. According to the data given by the N.S. Likoshin on the traditional system of education in Bukhara, the Government of Emir allotted to the receiver of *dakhyak* 120 tangas — 24 roubles annually.⁷

The beneficiaries of *dakhyak* in the madrassa or the candidates for receiving the *dakhyak* according to the decree by the qazikalon (قاضیکلان)⁸ had to take exams annually on February 15th. The exam took place in the patio of qazi. There, according to the registry the qazi distributed the scholarships to the students. Listeners who were not living in the territory of Bukhara in the same day had to be in the exam. After distribution of the scholarship, the qazi himself had to establish the registry and counted the number of listeners who had deceased and didn't take the exam depending on certain reasons. After that new candidates for the scholarships were taking the exam as a replacement for them. The exam was taken in front of the huge amount of onlookers, that is in front of the people, the new places could be claimed by those students who had successfully taken exam and could read Arabic calligraphy consisting of the complex form of Arabic script. These measures were tradition of financial support of the education in madrassah and listeners studying in them in the end of 19th early of the 20th century. The Emirs of Bukhara Muzaffariddin, Abdulakhadkhan and Alimkhan took the measures on the financial support of not only listeners of the madrassas of the Emirate, but also they established the scholarships for the underprivileged and talented students studying in the educational establishments on the basis of Russian education system.

As a result of the processed archive data it was revealed that the correspondence between the Russian political agency in Bukhara and the Government of Bukhara is an important source of analysis of this problem. The correspondence

6 Dakhyak (دهیک) was one tenth of the *waqf* revenue assigned for the maintenance of the students of madrassah.

7 Likoshin, N.S. *Pol jizni v Turkestane (ocherki bita tuzemnogo naseleniya)*. Petrograd, 1916, p. 243.

8 Qazikalon (قاضی کلان) was a chief judge. Among his obligations there were observation of the educational process of the madrassah.

related with the ceremonials of the establishment of scholarships in the educational establishments on the basis of education system of Russian empire can be divided into two periods.

The first period begins with the launch in each of the educational facility the Emir's scholarship for the children of Bukhara studying in the educational facilities in towns like Petro-Alexandrovsk, Kazalinsk, Perovsk, Tashkent and Samarkand. This scholarship was inaugurated by the Emir Muzaffariddin on February 28, 1885 in honour of the 25th anniversary of the reign of the Alexander II from the interest rates out of the charity capital in amount of 32.650 roubles.⁹ The order of allotting this scholarship was given by the Ministry of Public Education of Russia on the June 14, 1885. The scholarship was created in the name of maintenance of getting free education in these cities by the students having the Emirate's citizenship.

The money allotted for the scholarship was preserved in the Tashkent Treasurer's Office in the form of state duties in papers and their value increased to 43.095 roubles from 1885 to 1891. Emir of Bukhara was informed about the fact that the money allotted by Emir was not used in a proper way. He was informed by the Chief Inspector of schools of Turkistan region F.M. Kerenski by the means of Russian political agent P.M. Lessar. The Chief Inspector with the permission of Emir suggested to use this money for the construction of real school in Tashkent¹⁰ with a view to maintain free education in this educational institute for children of the citizens of Emir.

In a response letter from February 4, 1891 to the Chief Inspector of schools of Turkistan F.M. Kerenski, Russian political agency in Bukhara confirmed the indispensability of informing the Government of Bukhara about the fact that children of citizens of Bukhara can study in Tashkent real school free of charge instead of studying at educational institutions of the city.¹¹ The Emir of Bukhara positively solved this question. It meant that the money confirmed for the scholarship in the cities of Governorate-General of Turkestan by the Emir Muzaffariddin in 1885 was paid for the construction of the building of the real educational facility in Tashkent which started in 1891. The Government of Emirate provided free education for the children of citizens in this educational institute.

9 O'zbekiston Respublikasi Markaziy davlat archivi (Central State Archive of Uzbekistan) further O'zR MDA. fond No.-1-3, ro'yxat No.1, ish No.109-110-varaq.

10 The Tashkent real school was opened in 1891. At first there were only two classes and in 1898 there were 7 of them (six main and one extra-seventh). Ibid. V.T. Kocharov. *Iz istorii organizatsii i razvitiya narodnogo obrazovaniya v Turkestanskom regione*. Tashkent: 1958. p. 42.

11 O'zR MDA. fond No.-1-3, ro'yxat No.1, ish No.79, 111-varaq.

The second period of founding the scholarships on the basis of the money of Emir of Bukhara belongs to the period of the reign of emirs Abdulakhad and Alimkhan. The correspondence between the Government of Emirate and the Russian political agency in Bukhara related with the establishment of stipends in Tashkent real school, Tashkent cadet corps, Turkestan teachers' seminary and rural children's orphanage of Empress Maria in Yekaterinburg, in Tula governorate can be attributed to this period.

It is worth to mention that information about establishment and order of the appointment of the candidates for the scholarships of the Emir of Bukhara was presented in the intergovernmental diplomatic correspondence between the Russian political agency and the *qo'shbeghi* of the Emirate, and also in official-interservices' correspondence between the chancellery of the Governorate-General of Turkestan, Chief Inspector of the schools of Turkistan region and administration of educational establishments.

The main correspondence on this problem was held during the period from 1898 to 1917 by the *qo'shbeghi* of Emir Jon Mirzabiy, Ostonaqul and Mirza Nasrulla with the Russian political agents A. Belyayev, Ya. Ya. Lyutsh, V.V. Ignatyev, P.M. Lessar, and also the manager of the political agency V. Petrov and N. Shulga.

The analysis of the documents from the chancellery of political agency showed the existence of important information about the establishment of scholarships named after Grand dukes Mikhail Nikolayevich¹² and Kirill Vladimirovich¹³ on the basis of the money provided by Emir of Bukhara.

The telegram of Russian political agent V.I. Ignatyev dated December 13, 1898 sent to Turkistan's governor-general S.M. Duxovsky has been well-kept up to this date. This letter informs that the Emir of Bukhara Said Abdulakhadkhan on the occasion of 50th anniversary of the birthday of Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich requests the establishment of two scholarships in Tashkent real school in amount of 300 roubles, with interests.¹⁴ After that, the governor-general S.M. Dukhovskiy sent the answer letter to the Emir of Bukhara dated December 15, 1898, expressing his gratitude for the permission to establish two scholarships in Tashkent real school on the occasion of 50th anniversary of Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich.

12 Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich (1832-1909). Son of the Emperor Nicholas the 1st, military commander and statesman, general-field marshal (from April 16, 1878), general-field zeichmaster (from 1852), led the role of representative of State Council (1881-1905).

13 Grand duke Kirill Vladimirovich (1878-1938). Second child of the third son of the Emperor Alexander III Vladimir Alexandrovich, cousin of the Nicholas II.

14 O'zR MDA. fond No.-1-47, ro'yxat No.1, ish No.507, 1-varaq.

In the Tashkent real school, the order of arrangement of candidates for the scholarship named after Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich on the basis of the money of Emir Said Abdulakhadkhan was confirmed by the Minister of Public education on 6 July 1899. According to the article 5 of this directive, the information on the candidates for the scholarships was given to the emir by Turkistan governor-general on the basis of presentation of Pedagogical Council of Tashkent real school. Approval of the candidate was under the competence of Emir.

Information from the archive documents gives evidence that the competition for the scholarship, for the students of educational institutions was very fierce. Children of citizens of Emirate of Bukhara and children from poorer families and the families who lost their breadwinners from other provinces of region also had the right to take part in this competition.

According to data obtained from the correspondence which was conducted between the qo'shbeghi of the Emirate and the Russian political agency with means of proposing the candidates to the scholarship firstly his marital status, his level of knowledge and his respect for the rules of educational institutions was taken into consideration. Religious preferences of candidates were not important. This fact confirms the existence of representatives of Muslims and Christians among the candidates.

In most cases the families who wanted their children to benefit from the scholarships referred to the name of the director of the Tashkent real school or Russian political agent in Bukhara. Such kinds of documents were written on behalf of Mikhail Shudrin, Dustmukhammad Kuvvatov, Abubek Divayev, Oysha bibi Yakubova. This document reveals all data regarding the candidate and his marital status in details.

After consideration of the candidate by Pedagogical Council of the educational institution, gathering necessary documents for introduction of the Director, reproduction from the protocol of the Council, data on the performance of the student and the list of candidates signed by the Director (class, name and surname, grades and persistence, successes, social status), the political agency in Bukhara was informed about the adopted decision through the Turkistan governor-general. And political agent was sending the list of candidates of *qo'shbeghi* of Emirate. It can be identified from the following historical document:

Your Eminence Mirza Nasrullabiy I inform you on the fact that one place of scholarship named after Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich in the Tashkent real school founded on the means of his Majesty the Emir became vacant. According to the order of distribution of the scholarship the Council of this

educational establishment the list of the candidates for the vacant place will be sent to His Excellency the Emir by the Turkistan governor-general. The Turkistan governor-general as a candidate for the vacant place bestowed to me the Muslim student Yakubov Yakub, studying in the first form of this educational institute. The right to inform you on this candidate to Your Majesty was conveyed to me. Your Eminence the qo'shbeghi I request you to refer to His Excellency the Emir on the issue of granting this scholarship to Yakubov Yakub and I request You to inform me on this matter. Wish you the health and mercy of His Excellency the Emir, waiting for Your answer. Director of political agency: Signature, (V.Petrov., letter No.1944 from March 23 1913).¹⁵

The Russian political agency directed the letters of such content to the name of *qo'shbeghi* on the basis of the order of presenting the list of candidates among students of Tashkent real school competing for the scholarship of the Emir.

As a result of research of letters of such content the following became clear: the last stage of the election of worthy students from the many candidates for the scholarship became dependent on the will of the emir of Bukhara. The *qo'shbeghi* of the emirate personally informed in the official letters the manager of Russian political agency in Bukhara or the political agent himself about the candidate who was rewarded with the confirmation by Emir,

Such kind of letters had the following content:

Dear the manager of Political agency of Russian Emperor. According to your letter No1944 from March 23 1913, the information on the fact that vacancy for the scholarship named after Grand duke Mikhail Nikolayevich became available was presented to His Excellency the Emir. I inform you that His Excellency the Emir gave permission of granting this scholarship to student Yakubov Yakub. (10th day of the month Jumad ul-avval of year 1331 of hegira (letter No.860 from the 2 of April of 1913)).¹⁶

Content analysis of the response letter showed that the letter has text-reference (letter) sent by the manager of the political agency to the governors of this region to the name of chief inspector of schools of Turkistan region.

This text has been written by handwriting, with black ink in the first part of the letter. Signature in the end of the letter confirms that the author of the text is the manager of the political agency V. Petrov.

15 O'zR MDA. fond No.-1-3, ro'yxat No.1, ish No.332, 70-varaq.

16 O'zR MDA. fond No.-1-3, ro'yxat No.1, ish No.332, 71-varaq.

Conclusion

Firstly, in the end of 19th and the beginning of the 20th century the government of the emirate of Bukhara had established scholarships for the talented, poor students of the special vocational education schools in the regions of Turkestan Governorate-General out of its budget.

This measure gives the evidence that the emirs not only paid attention to the educational institutions in their respective country, but also to the educational facilities established in the Turkestan Governorate-General and provided support to those students studying there.

Secondly, the fact that the scholarships established in the Tashkent Real school, Tashkent cadet corps bore the names of the representatives of the family of Russian emperor indicates that in that period there was a significant confidence in the social relationships between the Bukhara and Russia. Therefore, scientific and cultural relations between the nations don't lose their importance in any period of time.

Thirdly, in the events of selection of proper candidate for the scholarships the government of the emirate in general made the choice regardless of the social background, religious affiliation or ethnicity of the candidate considering only their intellectual level and attitude.

These show that the emirs always obeyed the principles such as universal values, tolerance, the relation towards people regardless of their religious, ethnic affiliation or stratum, caring for them with the mercy and consideration.

Fourthly, the scholarships established in the Turkestan teachers' seminary by the government of the emirate in this period of time weren't in contradiction of the will of their citizens to obtain an education in the secular educational facilities, they had financially supported them to achieve their ambitions. Consequently, after a definite period of time these measures gave their significant product. The activities of the Mukhtar Saidjonov is a pattern for this.

Fifthly, the establishment of the scholarship named after Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich in the Tashkent Real School as a donation of emir Alimkhan, in the Oriental countries we can attribute it as a measure of benediction for escaping mischief and bad luck. It once again shows that representatives of families of emir and emperor had warm and friendly relations towards each other in the period of calamities.

Sixthly, the charity of the certain part of the donation of the emir of Bukhara in the Empress Maria's orphanage in Yekaterinburg and on this basis