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Ethnic History of Shakhrisabz Province at The Beginning of The Xix-Xx Centuries

Botirova Halima Eshmamatovna¹, Parmonov Sharofiddin Shavkatovich²

¹Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers"National Research University, Doctor of Philosophy in History (PhD), Acting Assistant Professor of the Department of Humanities Uzbekistan ²Chirchik State Pedagogical University Lecturer at the Department of History of Uzbekistan, Faculty of Humanities. Uzbekistan

*Corresponding author's E-mail: Parmonovsharofiddin96@gmail.com

| Article History | Abstract |
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| Received: 06 June 2023 Revised: 05 Sept 2023 Accepted: 06 Dec 2023 | This article describes the population of Shakhrisabz province, ethnic composition, lifestyle and geographical location of the population. In particular, the fact that the population belonging to the Uzbek and other ethnic groups settled and was engaged in agriculture, animal husbandry, crafts and trade, while the population living in rural areas was located according to clans and tribes, the distribution of the population in urban areas, ethnic composition and social status of their craft and trading activities, information related to it is presented on the basis of various sources. |
| CC License CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0 | Keywords: Bukhara Emirate, Kashkadarya oasis, Shakhrisabz province, ethnic history, Uzbeks, Kenagas, Mangits, Barlos, Tajiks, Turks, Kyrgyz, Naimans, Jews, cattle breeding, crafts and trade relations. |

1. Introduction

The ethnic history of the Shakhrisabz province at the beginning of the 19th-20th centuries has been relatively little studied, and insufficient research has been carried out on the ethnic composition and social way of life of the local population. Information about the ethnic history of Beklik can be found in the works of Russian tourists and military collections, as well as works created in the 20th century. According to sources, Karshi, Shakhrisabz, Guzor, Baljuvan, Chorjoi, Karkinsky, Kolob districts are second only to the city of Bukhara in terms of population. Colonel Galkin's research in this regard shows that about 500 thousand people lived in the Shakhrisabz Valley and Karshi Plain.

Some differences can be observed in the information about the population of Beklik given in the sources of the late 19th - early 20th centuries. For example, Semenov-Tyan-Shansky, who studied the population of the cities of the Kashkadarya oasis, mentioned that about 30 thousand people live in the city of Shakhrisabz.

2. Materials And Methods

Literary Analysis

Information from sources suggests that the number of residents in Bek is actually greater than stated above. In particular, according to Colonel Belyavsky, the population of the Shakhrisabz region reaches 140,000 people, and if we take into account the population of villages located in the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya, Aksuv-Tankhoz and Kyzylsuv rivers, then their number is approximately 280,000 people. This information is confirmed by Captain Arkhipov and Captain Pokotilar.

A. Kun, who studied the inhabitants of the city of Shakhrisabz and their way of life, divided the city into 14 Guzars, such as Kuloli, Khoja, Khovuzi Mardon, Sariosiyo, Juyi Khaltak, Kunchikar, Tagi Oksaroy, Sari Bozar, Mumin Degrezi, Kazi, Kushkhana, Chakar, Charmgar, Kitab and 4000 households lived in these guzars and noted that the number of inhabitants in them was about 20,000 people.

This information is confirmed by American diplomat Yu. Schuyler, who visited Kitab and Shakhrisabz in the 1970s. By the beginning of the 20th century, the number of guzars reached 52. The largest of these guzars united 100 houses, and the smallest consisted of 20-30 houses.

The majority of the population of the Shakhrisabz province was made up of the Uzbek clans Kenagas and Saray. Kyrgyz and Aiyars also lived in Bek. The inhabitants of Beklik were mainly engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry (people who lived on the hills and pastures were mainly engaged in sheep breeding).

Captain Pokotilo claims that the reserve's 14 estates contained 50,000 households and were home to 150,000 inhabitants of the Kenagas and Kurama clans.

3. Results and Discussion

Information about the territory and population of the Bukhara Emirate varies and shows that the ethnic composition of the Kashkadarya oasis at the beginning of the 19th-20th centuries. consisted of representatives of various clans and tribes. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Kenagas, Sarai, Kutchi, Turk, Barlos, Katagon, Kalmak, Kangli, Chuyut, Kiyat, Kangirot, Mojor, Mangit, Mitan, Mongolian, Naiman, Sayot clans and other clans around lived in Shakhrisabz and its environs.

The ethnic groups living in the Kashkadarya oasis at the beginning of the 19th-20th centuries were distributed differently throughout the oasis. The Mangits are the largest Uzbek clan in the Bukhara Emirate, and about 200 lived in Shakhrisabz. Representatives of the Sarai clan made up a total of 39,940 people in the emirate, of which 7,070 belonged to the Sivaz, Sari-Soilan, the Yamanchi, Oz tribes lived in Shakhrisabz Vokha -Saroy, Ulyashun, Puchak, and in Kitab - groups such as Karabag-Saray. According to N. Khanikov's information in the mid-19th century, it is noted that the Sarai lived in the vicinity of the Samarkand-Karshi road and were engaged in cattle breeding.

One of the famous families of the Uzbek people is the Kenagas, who were leading people in the Shakhrisabz oasis in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In the 20s of the 20th century, the total number of Kenagas was about 35,000 people, and they lived on the southern slopes of the Zarafshan Range, in the upper part of Kashkadarya, as well as in Khorezm and Fergana. Most of them, about 18 thousand, lived in Shakhrisabz. Some of the Kenagas lived in the Bukhara oasis and Karman, another part lived in the Langardarya basin, and a small group of Chuyuts lived in the Kenagas village of Urgut, south of Samarkand.

In addition, Kenagas rarely live in Tersak, Mingbulok, Tarakly, Tegan, Achamaili and other villages of Urgut. Family ties between the kenags of Urgut and Shakhrisabz have survived to this day. The Kenags living in the Shakhrisabz region are mainly divided into groups such as Achamaily, Chuyut, Avozh (with two small branches known as Turoy and Toragay), Tarakhly and Kayrab Soldi.

A. Kun Tarakhly, Temirchi, Chichily, Dorman, Ortarakhly, Akstaly, Naymantarakhly, Kikilg, Chigatoy, Chutdatugal, Surum, Koshaboshi, Banamchi, Achamaily, Shirachi, Kandaligali, Turop, Karakalpak, Mindzhir and Chubbulok are considered members of the Kenagas tribes. clan and notes that these peoples live in a mixed manner in the river basin, in the foothills and some in the gorges. At the beginning of the 20th century, the kenags were located along the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya in the following order:

- 4,275 people live along the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya;
- 1545 people living in the upper reaches of the Yakkabogdarya;
- Chuyuty on the slopes of the Samarkand Mountains 4475 people;
- The areas of the Yakkabog Mountain Range are home to 840 people, mostly loud.

Although almost all ethnographers provide information about the Kenagas clan, they do not dwell on the issue of their origin and migration. In particular, Radlov notes that the Kenags make up the majority of the population of Shakhrisabz and live in Khiva, and Khoroshin reports that they live in the Kashkadarya Valley.

The idea that the Kenagas clan descended from the Mangits is incorrect. Based on the names of these clan branches, we can conclude that the Kenagas are part of the union of Turkic tribes.

In addition, there are also kairabsoldi (prepared from a mixture of merket (macrida) and mirishkor seeds) of unknown origin kenagas. Also, the Kenagas were part of the fourteen clans of the Karakalpaks.

According to N.A. Aristov and A.D. Grebenkin, the combed female kenaga is of Chinese origin. One of the largest ethnic groups of Uzbeks are the Kenagas, who make up the majority of the population of the Shakhrisabz beylik, as well as the neighboring Kitab beylik, and a small number of them live in the territories of other regions of Uzbekistan. The Kenags considered the Shakhrisabz oasis their country, homeland.

When and where they came from to the ancient oasis of Kesh-Shakhrisabz is still controversial. The ethnic history of the Kenagas, which has not been studied as a subject of separate scientific research, is widespread in almost all regions of the Bukhara Emirate. They made up 27,240 of the emirate's population and lived mainly in Central and Eastern Bukhara. At the beginning of the 20th century, 445 people lived in the Shakhrisabz oasis (together with 145 Khiyakikhs), and in their origin they are close to the branch of the Sayak tribe of the Ettisoi Kyrgyz. In Kyrgyz legends there are opinions that Katagon was the son of Sayak. The Türks were divided into four clans, initially the Türks, Kaltatoi, Musabozori and Barlos.

In the Bukhara Emirate, the Turks number a total of 21,920 people and are located in the upper reaches of the rivers of Central and Eastern Bukhara. Of these, 615 people lived in Shakhrisabz Volya. The Barlos clan of the Turkish tribe numbers a total of 8,720 people in the emirate, of which 710 lived in the upper part of Kashkadarya, mainly among the Turks of the Shakhrisabz oasis. Barlos are divided into groups such as Talibbachcha, Kozibachcha, Polatbachcha, Aksokbachcha, Nematbachcha, Shashbakhcha, large Kalhofizi, small Kalhofizi, Yatta and Omadi.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Barlos became a relative minority as a result of merging with the local population. Some of them, having settled down and experienced persecution, forgot their people. Over time, most Barlos settled down and forgot the names of their clans.

They became completely Turkic in the 19th century and called their mother tongue Turkish. By the 1920s, the number of bearers of the ethnic surname Barlos was about 15-20 thousand people.

At the beginning of the 20th century, in the upper part of Kashkadarya there were 655 Turks belonging to the Musabozori branch. They are divided into such genera as Chori, Kulobi, Yulmo, Kaltatoi, Tajik, Ortabozi, Kolai-Javri, Degoi. Grebenkin reports that in 1872 the Barlos and Musabozori lived in Shakharisabz Bey, and Kaltatoi lived in the Zarafshan oasis. Two groups of Naimans lived in the Shakhrisabz oasis, mainly engaged in hunting. At the beginning of the 20th century their number numbered 220 people. 1325 The Khojas lived in the Shakhrisabz oasis, Kutchilar numbered only 6110 people.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Kutchilars numbered 390 people along the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya, 342 people in the Shakhrisabz oasis and 250 people in the mountain villages of the Yakkabog mountain range. Representatives of the Kyrgyz people, who belonged to the settled Uzbeks, lived mainly in the Zerafshan Valley, the Karman oasis and Bukhara. Their small groups (435 people) lived in the Shakhrisabz oasis. Kyrgyz in Shakhrisabz accounted for 7.76 percent of all Kyrgyz in the emirate.

The number of qiyats in the emirate is 1,300 people, of which 790 people lived in the north of Shakhrisabz, on the slopes of the Samarkand mountains, and 100 people lived in the mountainous regions of Yakkabog, southeast of the oasis. Readings in the Kashkadarya oasis accounted for 68.5 percent of the total number of readings. At the beginning of the 20th century, 45 people from Tatars and 75 people from Chigatoy lived in Shakhrisabz Bekli. The origin of Chigatoi goes back to the Chigatoi Mongols, and Kangli is located along the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya. Tajiks were the majority in the city of Kitab compared to Shakhrisabz. Among the Chigatai Tajiks, 6,125 people lived in the Kashkadarya oasis, along the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya, and 250 people lived in the Shakhrisabz oasis.

4. Conclusion

Based on a study of the ethnic composition of the residents of the Shakharisabz region in the 19th - early 20th centuries, the following conclusions can be drawn:

Uzbeks and other ethnic groups lived in the oasis and were engaged in agriculture, animal husbandry, crafts and trade. Uzbeks made up the majority of the population (85 percent). The majority of the population of the oasis were rural residents living in the mountains, foothills and steppes. The population living in rural districts was divided into clans and tribes, the location of the population in urban areas, ethnic composition and social status. Statuses were associated with their crafts and trading activities.

At the beginning of the 19th and 20th centuries, some inaccuracies and confusion were noticeable in the information about the population of Shakhrisabz Beylik. This situation requires further research and clarification of the issue.

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