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RESEARCH ARTICLE

RUSSIAN CARTOGRAPHIC AND GEOGRAPHICAL SOURCES CONCERNING CENTRAL ASIA IN XVII – XVIII CENTURIES

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ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the problem of formation of geographical and cartographic traditions of Central Asia in Russia, especially in the XVII – XVIII centuries. This period was one of the fundamental researching of the Central Asian territories by Russian specialists. Given detail information about the cartographic and geographic sources, its contents and influence for the future researching of the region.

INTRODUCTION

Relations between Russia and Central Asia have deep historical roots. In the X century, in order to establish trade relations through Ustyurt held a special trade route along which were built caravanserais and sardobas (water storages). On peculiarities active trade between Russia and Central Asia also show and numismatic materials, in particular, coins belonging to Central Asian states, found by archaeologists throughout Russia, to the shores of the Baltic Sea. As a result of these communications in Russia gradually accumulated geographical information about Central Asia. Information Russian ambassadors and merchants who visited Central Asia, occurs in the form of historical and geographical materials in various Russian sources, reports, as well as drawings and maps. The very first geographical source containing detailed and comprehensive information about Central Asia prior to the XVI century is the "The Book of the Big Drawing". It consisted of the atlas "Large drawing", compiled at the end of the XVII century text and application handbook concerning the southern Russian regions in 1627. "The Book of the Big Drawing" was recommended as an official document of the various government agencies and officials and used for this purpose throughout the XVII century. "The Book of the Big Drawing" was created in 1627. It contains a special chapter on Central Asia of the period, which contains information on the plains, topography, water resources and some settlements in

the region. The book contains about 50 geographic names in Central Asia [5]. It contains information about the Aral Sea, the Syr Darya, Amu Darya, as well as cities such as Bukhara and Tashkent. In the book marked the location of the Central Asian towns and major cities, as in the beginning of XVIII century in Russian cartography focused on human settlements near major rivers, main roads, as well as having a military strategic importance. This can be seen in the data on Central Asia. For example, in the "The Book of the Big Drawing" provides the following information about Bukhara and its surroundings: "Opposite the city of Bukhara, a distance of 170 miles, the river flowing from the lake Ogus, and empties into the sea Khvalim (length 1000 miles). On the coast of Lake Ogus located the town of Kagan, where the younger brother of the king of the city (region) Jurgen (Urgench) [14, 50]". The book has valuable information on the cities Sairam and Tashkent, which is particularly important for its accuracy in terms of the location of these points: "At a distance of 160 miles from the Syr is city Isairyam (Sairam), and the city Toshkun (Tashkent) is located at a distance of 30 miles from the river Syr [14, 96]". In the source provides information about the towns and villages along the banks of the Syr Darya and Amu Darya, as well as the distances between settlements. However, it should be noted, and the fact that many details "The Book of the Big Drawing" brief, disjointed and sometimes erroneous. For example, for information about the city of Bukhara are the following lines: "The city of Bukhara

and all Bukhara draws water for their fertile lands from the Syr ... [14, 95]”. This means that, in Russia, even before XVII century there was no exact information about the river Zarafshan (which is actually supplied water Bukharan land). Also appropriate to emphasize that the information from the Book suggests that Russian companies have greater interest to the southern edges and the local population of these regions had a number of geographic sources, the compilers of which possessed a wide geographic worldview. So “The Book of the Big Drawing”, created in the first quarter of the XVII century was the successful outcome of Russian geographical thought. It describes the 1500 geographic names, 50 of which relate to the Central Asian region. This suggests that information about this region particularly interested Russian political and scientific circles, although Russians until now has not made visits or trips to Central Asia. The next written source of particular importance in the study of geography of Central Asia, is P.I. Rychkov’s “Topography of Orenburg Province” (1726), containing a rich and varied material classifying the nature of Central Asia.

P. Rychkov was personally acquainted with many travelers and merchants who visited Central Asian information and analyze them. Region, especially the rugged area. Scientist called “Orenburg’s Lomonosov”, he collected geographical information about Central Asia, has compiled all known at the time mapping and geographical data [4]. In the first part of the book he gives information on the city of Orenburg, and the second part – about the land and people of the surrounding area the Orenburg province. Generally half of the book is, in content, “Brief geographical information about the lands of Central Asia”, bordering the newly formed province of Orenburg [10]. In total, seven chapters of “Topography of Orenburg Province” is devoted the information about Central Asian region. They are: 1. About Turkmens. 2. Khiva and Khivans. 3. About Aralts. 4. About Karakalpaghahks. 5. Large hordes of Kazakhs. 6. Estates of Turkestan. 7. Possession of Tashkent [16]. “Topography of Orenburg province” was published in various languages at that period and in particular in the German, a copy of which use foreign experts, but these translations do not occur the maps of Orenburg and adjacent regions. Russian government commissioned Semyon Remezov to create new atlas of Siberia in 1695. In order to gather material for the atlas S. Remezov made several trips to Central Asia in October 1696. He used sources and drawings known at that time.

In cartographic atlas of Siberia S. Remezov prepared at the end of the XVII century – Drawing the whole of Siberia – a large part of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, as displayed in a special map, located at 113 and 114 pages of this source [15]. It is completed in 1697. This map is valuable source that is based on compass research and within a certain scale, gathered details about Central Asia, available until the end of the XVII century. It should be noted that the map displayed incorrectly form the Aral Sea, but its location and the confluence of the river Syr Darya to the Aral Sea are correct. Areas, where the population of neighborhoods of the Aral Sea, as well as modern Karakalpakstan and Khorezm, marked as “Araltsy” and “Yurgentsy”. Hills, located on the western and northern coasts of the Aral Sea, are depicted low mountains form in the map. On the territory of modern Khorezm given names such areas as “Azaris”, “Kaschy”, “Yurgenchi”, “Khiva”, “Enbar”, “Hail Taprasy” and three names “Karaul”. Also Karakul, Bukhara, Samarkand, Hazorasp and connecting routes them.

On the banks of the Syr Darya shows the city of Tashkent. S. Remezov’s map for perfection was no worse than Western European maps of this kind created by contemporaries. The main distinguishing features of it were as follows: 1) The map had a direction to the south; 2) its main geographic features are routes, as well as towns along it; 3) the name of the Central Asian cities were the majority; 4) are not given information about the river Zarafshan. Due to the growing interest to Central Asia in Russia at the end of the XVII century increased the number of Russian geographic and cartographic information about this region. Since the era of the reign of Peter I, opened a new chapter not only in Russia’s relations with the Far East, but also its relationship with the Muslim world. Already at the end of the XVII century, period of existence Moscow state, was presenting the interests of Russia to the countries located in the Caspian Sea, and currently Russian had definite ideas about the region [2].

The next stage of accumulation of Russian geographic and cartographic information about Central Asia is related to the activities of Russian ambassadors, travelers, geographers and cartographers during the reign of Peter I and then in XVIII century. Also at the beginning of the XVIII century Russia has sought to consolidate their position in Central Asia. The territory of the Central Asian khanates was supposed to play the role of bailiff points on the way Russians to India. During this period, the problem of finding the shortest path from Russia to India through Central Asia was the main problem of research Russian geographers and cartographers. Activity of Peter I played a pivotal role in solving this problem. Solution such global problems required primarily ambassadorial expeditions to Central Asia and through their collecting detailed information about the region. Proposal to send expeditions to Central Asia was Peter I well-known figure F.S. Saltykov, sent a letter to the Emperor on April 27, 1713, which offers: obtaining “... steppes between China and Bukhara, the lands between India and Tangut, and thereby – Yorkent and Turfan”. In 1714, Peter I sends Lieutenant, prince A. Bekovich-Cherkassky the Caspian Sea, and instructs him to go out in the Khanate of Khiva. In April, 1715 Bekovich went from Astrakhan eastern shores of the Caspian Sea [8]. His expedition is credited with drawing up the scientific maps of the Caspian Sea and Central Asia. To implement the guidance of Peter I on the construction of military fortifications here and this by setting on the east coast of the Caspian Sea influence Russian state, he is sent by sea on 69 ships. From Tikkaragan place he reached Mangishlak and erects military fortress here under the name of St. Peter. The second fort was built in Krasnovodsk [11]. As a result of this expedition were collected earlier materials on downstream and created a map of the eastern shores of the Caspian Sea. Map of the Caspian Sea, mainly depicted its eastern coast, the Dead Gulf, Buzachi peninsula and Mangishlak, Alexander Bay and unnamed bay. Especially clearly shows the location Korabogaz Bay and Krasnovodsk, Balkhan bays. Renowned scientist L.S. Berg on the article devoted to Caspian Sea, announces that this map was not found [13]. However, in the 60th years of XIX century E.A. Knyazhetskaya writes that this map with the map of Central Asia, compiled by Bekovich-Cherkassky Peter I takes to Paris [7]. Original map was found and researched by E.A. Knyazhetskaya. In 1720 in Russia was published the first printed map of the Caspian Sea. But it was incorrectly listed bays east coast of the Caspian Sea. Although this map was compiled on materials F.I. Soymonov, photographed in 1719 the western and southern part of the sea, but the bays were not

displayed previously indicated Bekovich-Cherkassky. And this, in turn, reduced the value of new scientific value and showed wrong information, in comparison with maps of the Caspian Sea, printed in Western Europe at the time. Most scientifically effective for the first half of the XVIII century was traveling Dmitry Gladischev and Ivan Muravin to Khiva in 1740 – 1741. Records of this journey takes in its time (1760) P.I. Rychkov, but the full text of the report and map published only in 1850, by famous orientalist Ya. Khanykov [6]. Advantage Ivan Muravin's map of previous maps was that many places (for example, the east coast of the Aral Sea) on it were first drawn on the basis of submissions received as a result of instrumental image [3]. For that, the map has become the basis for creating the next map of the Aral Sea. Map images mostly areas of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm are under the names of Khiva and the Aral possessions.

There are also maps I. Krasilnikov that were found promoting Russian Geographical society only after 125 years after their creation. I. Krasilnikov was charged on the basis of the available materials to create the main map of the Orenburg province, as well as 10 special maps in 1752. Maps were prepared and sent to the Geographical Department of the Academy of Sciences in 1753. Composed of two I. Krasilnikov maps provide information on the territory of Central Asia. The map shows rivers, lakes, prairies, mountains, forests, hills and fortifications [10]. Along with the existing old materials, I. Krasilnikov when drawing up their maps, and took advantage of the new information. For example, land on the right bank of the Syr Darya are called "Barsukova Sands". Sarasu river before reaching the Syr Darya flows into Lake Telegul. On the banks of the Syr Darya marked cities such as Saran, Tashkent, Otrar. More precisely mapped sources of the Amu Darya. After maps of I. Krasilnikov the Russian cartography was not found other new information in XVIII century. There are some opinions that after map of I. Krasilnikov in the XVIII century the Russian cartographic work about Central Asia found their completion [1]. However, several Russian maps relating of Central Asia the end of the XVIII century were found in the Central State Military History Archive (Moscow) and studied by geographer R.L. Yugay in the 60th years last century. Author was Russian soldier, Maj.-Gen. Yacob Bower. In describing the Aral and Caspian Seas were used I. Krasilnikov map attached to P. Rychkov to his work "Topography of Orenburg Province", and a map I. Muravin.

Zarafshan river n flows as shown in the Amu Darya, but it named Kuhak on the map. Showing the towns and villages along the banks of the Amu Darya. On the delta between the two main tributaries of the Amu Darya specified region, referred to as the "Housing Karakalpaks" [17]. Although inaccurate showed the first source of Zarafshan, its environment and lower reaches are depicted mostly correct. Quite clearly indicated the location of settlements in the Zarafshan valley, such as Samarkand, Kattakurgan, Pandzhiken, Hatirchi, Bukhara, Karmana, Yangikurgan, Gijduvan, Romitan, Karakul and others. Map distorted, incorrect and very schematically shows Syr Darya valley and the Syrdarya river basin. Even densely populated Ferghana valley land Yacob Bower on the map shows in white spot. This suggests that the beginning of XIX century land of the valley have not been sufficiently known Russian cartographers. Of particular significance of Yacob Bower's map is the territory of Turkmenistan shown on it. East area of the Caspian Sea on the map is shown as "part of the Chinese state".

On the map, which shows the south-western regions of present Turkmenistan, painted symbols, meaning mountain, and given the geographic elements and inscriptions indicating Sarykamysh, Merv valley banks of the Amudarya from Kelif to Khorezm [9]. Next, on the right bank of the river from the mountains "Kugitan" to southern Khiva Khanate showed following settlements by topographical signs: Zaidali, Choshbobo, Zanghibobo, Zuibadali, Burdalak, Kushk, Chugna, Komi, Olot, Yaichi, Chugurdum, Khalata. On the left bank are: Kerky, Halach, Hodzhazhanbas, Izkak, Polvort, Kochanol, Chukcha, Narazim, Chardjuy, Khoja Kala, Kubak Kala and Sukuer. It is known that the city Chardjuy in written sources (also in the cartographical) is found in the form of "Charchau" starting from the XVI century. Maps of the XVIII century prove the fact that the name is widespread and it was at this time. The map shows the direction of the river Mary flowing through the Murgob valley and across the Karakum Desert which flows into Sarykamysh. This image does not correspond to reality. Map of Colonel Ivan Lyutov related to the end of the XVIII century. The territory of modern Uzbekistan shows "nomadic steppe – Kirgыз-kaysakov" land between the Caspian and Aral seas are named as "Trukhmen ownership". Eastern coast of the Caspian Sea, in comparison with a Yacob Bower's map far right shows the total length of the sea from north to south is 11 latitude (47-36 north latitude) [18]. More correctly displayed upper Amu Darya region, in particular, shows the Vakhsh and its tributaries Surkhon. Fully depicted possession of Khiva (Khorezm Valley) and closely spaced irrigation canals around Khiva. Opposite Khiva, two coasts of the Amu Darya town located Azaris (Khazorasp) Ugrani (Urgench), Khecht (Cat) Vizirat (Wazir) and Navat.

As the all maps of the XVIII century, the upper reaches of the Syr Darya River displayed incorrectly.

I. Lyutov's map is considered one of the best cartographic sources XVIII century depicting territory coming into modern Kazakhstan, Central Asia and nearby regions. Timofy Burnashev with Alexei Beznosikov visited Bukhara and collected rich material about this region in 1774 – 1775. Alexei Beznosikov made four maps about the territory of Central Asia [12]. But in these maps relief depicts a very schematic way, and the mountains are depicted the way ordinary figure. However, hydrography and irrigation sources are sufficiently accurate and complete. On the territory of modern Uzbekistan shows the area of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Khorezm, Bukhara, Samarkand region, as the area on one point refers to the Khanate of Kokand. Interesting is the fact that for the first time on this map of Russian cartographic sources occurs in the form of the Kyzyl Kum placename "Kyzyl Kum Sands". On the Burnashev's report Kyzylkum given the following description: "The lands between Cheese and Jani a lot of saxauls, but there are also the area with water and crops, the road starting from Jani, and passes through waterless of groves Kyzyl Kum (Red Sand)" [19]. Summarizing the data of Russian geographic and cartographic materials XVII – XVIII centuries about Central Asia, we can draw the following conclusions:

- information about Central Asia, collected before the XVII century were created in the "drawings";
- in the 30th years of XVIII centuries "The Book of the Big Drawing" was considered a successful outcome of Russian geographical knowledge era. It describes the 1500 geographic names, 50 of which relate to the

Central Asian region, which is a testament to what a great interest is the Central Asia for political and scientific circles of Russia, though on their part is not yet on his visit to the region;

- the availability of information from the Russian did not belong to the domain of Russian Central Asian lands confirms that what the government has paid special attention to the southern regions of Russia that Russia has established its international relations not only with the West, but also with the countries of Central Asia. In this regard, the Russian cartography developed, enriching the information available on Central Asia with new materials;
- although not created most faithful and accurate mapping images of the southern (current Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya) and eastern (present Fergana valley) regions of the edge, but in this field has already made the first steps;
- the period up to the XVIII century Russia is considered to time with reference Central Asian territory and collect materials about them, but at that time were still represented the first attempt to create a cartographic materials about the region;
- from the XVIII century replace created before this time, “drawing” it began to come relatively accurately and thoroughly designed maps;
- in general, XVIII century is considered new, more advanced stage in the creation of geographic and cartographic research, in terms of growth in their number, quality improvement and expansion of the field of study;
- XVIII century was a period of development of Russian geography and cartography on a scientific basis about Central Asia. Russian scientists and travelers directly performed topographic and cartographic study in the western and central regions Central Asia and began to collect valuable materials about these regions.

Summarizing the data of Russian geographic and cartographic materials XVII – XVIII centuries about Central Asia, we can draw the following conclusions:

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