The Newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” and The Beginning of The Development of The History of The Press in Central Asia*

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Abstract

“Turkestanskie Vedomosti” (1870-1917 years) was the first printed issue in Central Asia designed to meet the needs of the tsarist colonial administration for all round study of the conquered region. This article was written on the basis of archival sources on the history of this newspaper.

There were scientific, scientific-practical, scientific and popular articles on the history, ethnography and folklore of the Central Asian people in the unofficial blog of the newspaper. On the pages of “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” one could find the characteristics of the condition of traditional cattle husbandry, description of the route of nomadic migrations in different regions and such issues were highlighted as the development of agriculture, methods of farmery and harvesting. Articles about the ethnic culture of the people of Central Asia were regularly appeared on its pages.

Researchers, interested in Turkestan region and Central Asia, could find on the pages of “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” an abundance of materials covering all aspects of life of the region, which is proved on the basis of the given scientific article. The political news taking place in society and world, the columns devoting to the World War I catch the eyes of readers.

Keywords

Turkestanskie Vedomosti, newspaper, printed issue, Turkestan region, Central Asia.

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Introduction

A country, which is aimed at civilization, the issue of newspapers and magazines is considered to be an indicator of its cultural development and as a special institution reflecting its political and social-economic state. The history of the development of periodical publications in Central Asia and Kazakhstan dates back to 1870. The representative of the Kazakh intelligentsia and Alash Orda Mirzhakip Dulatov said: “The accurate measure of cultural front of every nation and every country represents its printed issues. The nation which has powerful printed issues becomes stronger and more skillful”. We will not be mistaken if we say that his statement is appeared to be a measure of cultural image and informational space of national newspapers and magazines of the late XIXth century and early XXth century (Dulatov 1923).

A prominent representative of Kazakh intelligentsia and Alash Orda Ahmet Baitursynov wrote in the dedication to the newspaper “Kazakh” the followings: “According to the statistics 2173 newspapers and magazines were published in Russia including 1,396 in Russian and 867 in other languages in 1907. In its turn Mirzhakyp Dulatov stated that: “About 2500 newspapers and magazines were published before the revolution in Russia. The number of published newspapers and magazines was high in the countries which were ahead of Russia in its development. In Kazakhstan, Turkestan inhabited by Kazakhs and Kyrgyz 42 issues were published until today (1926)”.

Then he specifies their names (Baitursynov 1913, Dulatov 1923). So, the newspapers and magazines constitute a unique Chronicle which widely cover different political and social events, cultural and historical processes of its time.

The scientific value of the published materials in the XIXth century and early XXth century could be compared with archival heritage, as this national developed press described the life of the community and the local population without hiding anything. If we consider that periodical publications appeared in the period of colonization of Turkestan region by Russia, the protsarist oriented were aimed at the highlighting the life of the Kazakhs and other people of Central Asia. The study of political weight of the first issues is of great importance for science. According to a Bibliographer Alexandr Alektorov: “A man, who set a goal to explore the history of Turkestan
region, should get acquainted with the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” (Alektorov 1900: 883).

As it is known, the vast majority of the published papers in Russian language as “Turkestanskie Vedomosti”, served an ideological weapon of colonization policy of the Russian Tsar. This problem had not been undergone in-depth study during the Soviet era. The reason for that is the newspapers and magazines of the bourgeois and liberal character tended to write more about the Kazakh region, Siberia, Central Asia and it could lead to improper function of the statement “About the voluntary integration to Russia”. The newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was closed in 1917 after the establishment of the Soviet power. The newspaper was run by the tsar power and it was one of the reason of the closure of the paper. After gaining the independence, Kazakhstan showed its interest in the study of the history of the periodical publications of the XIXth and early XXth century using new approaches (Kazakh 1998, Aikap 1995, Dala Vilayatinin gazeti 1995).

**The History of the Development of the First Printed Issue in Central Asia**

In July 11, 1867 according to the “Provisional Regulations about the Administration in Semirechensk and Syrdarya regions” Turkestan province was formed. A number of researchers from Russia, as well as representatives of the local science were involved in the study of this region. This activity initiated by first General-Governor of the region Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman (Central’nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana: Fond I-1, Opis 35, Delo 2: 66, Ubilejnyi nomer k otkrytiyu, 1913). To combine the works and observations of these scientific and literary forces Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman supported the suggestion of a famous region Statistician S.A. Idarov to organize an official body (Otdel’noe mnenie chlena Turkestanskogo 1872).

In accordance with the №75 of military national regulation of Turkestan General Gubernator from November 6, 1869 the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was founded. It required a lot of scientific works and time to print the paper. All this responsibility rested on the first editor of the newspaper a staff Captain Nikolai Mayev and his Assistant, Titular Counselor A.K. Lazarev. They were sent to St. Petersburg to purchase newspaper necessities and acquire practical skills (Central’nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv
Uzbekistana: Fond I-1, Opis 1, Delo 49: 735). This preparatory work took almost a whole year. In March 1870 Nikolai Mayev and A.K. Lazarev returned to Tashkent to start printing the paper. In April 28 (May 10) 1870 the first issue of the official newspaper of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” published in the printing house of Tashkent military district headquarter. The newspaper differed significantly from the released papers of provincial and regional statements. This newspaper was edited by military officers headed by General-Governor (Central’nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana: Fond I-1, Opis 20, Delo 1748: 301, Predisloviye, 1870).

The government pursued definite goals by publishing “Vedomosti”. The printed word was necessary to the authorities of Turkestan General Governor to conduct and distribute their policy directed to the colonization of local people, as well as to distribute the literacy and education which was dictated by the economic and political development of the region.

Thus, the printed word in Turkestan appeared in the second half of the nineteenth century as a new and powerful weapon of class, ideological and political struggle as a mean of solving the significant tasks of the Russian state. The appearance of “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was one of the elements of Tsarist colonial policy of the Russian Empire. General-Governor of Turkestan region Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman and the tsarist government set a goal, first of all, to open “... a wide and easily accessible way into the heart of Central Asia”. In other words, the task was to maximally facilitate the colonial occupation of land, as well as to “give everyone the opportunity to follow the performance of a huge work – introduction of a civil order, civilization and complete people security in the country which was under the rule of Islam and Asian despotism” (Central’nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana: Fond I-1, Opis 34, Delo 346: 91).

Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman clearly understood what an enormous assistance would give him the newspaper in realizing this task. He was a Chief Editor during five years of its existence. Only in 1874 Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman allowed an Editor Nikolai Mayev to inform him about the most important materials intended to be placed in the newspaper. Such reports were done weekly on Fridays, i.e. 4 days before the release of the issue at 8 pm, and sometimes it lasted even after midnight (Dobrosmyslov 1910: 146-148, K 30-letiu “Turkestanskih vedomostei” 1900: 240).
The newspaper was published from 1870 to 1873 in the printing house of the district headquarter, and since 1873 - in the printing house of the Chancery of the Governorate General. During the first year 17 issues were released in the form of 1.5 printed sheets. In 1871 it turned to periodical publication and was published weekly, on Tuesdays. Since 1893 the newspaper was published twice a week – on Sundays and Thursdays, the issue 9 from December 3, 1903 – 3 times a week, the issue 90 from March 2, 1904 – four times a week, from July 3, 1907 it became a daily paper.

In 1911 from April 16 to August 1 an evening issues of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” came out. It printed urgent, morning, afternoon and evening telegrams, orders and announcements of the General-Governor. The last issue of the paper was released in December 15, 1917. 48 years of its existence the newspaper released 6406 issues. Due to the fact that most of the local population did not know Russian language the number of subscribers increased very slowly. That’s why 225-300 exemplars were released a year, and only in 1899 the circulation of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” reached 1050 exemplars, and in 1909 – 3000 exemplars. The subscription to the paper was carried out in Tashkent editorial office, in S.A. Bazukov and S.V. Zvonarev bookstore in St. Petersburg and in I.G. Solovyov bookstores in Moscow, Shanin bookstore in Orenburg.

According to the request of an Editor from the Chief Quartermaster control financial support was given to keep the newspaper. Every time after being introduced with the content of the paper the Editor gave an account to the General-Governor on the costs of the issue (Central‘nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana: Fond I-1, Opis 3, Delo 553/5: 52, Delo 451/5: 162, OpIS 11, Delo 1866 / 3: 278, Delo 1873/20: 10, Delo 1865/3: 195).

During the first 37 years of its function the newspaper followed one direction, it was the study of Turkestan region in all aspects. Since the second half of 1909 the newspaper changed the outer appearance and its inner content inherent to the type of provincial newspapers. Poems, short stories, feuilleton, jokes were placed on the pages of the paper. Until №20 1917 “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was thought to be the official organ of Turkestan region. After the February bourgeois revolution, from January 25 (February 7) to 17 (30) April, 1917 the newspaper stopped its function for a while. In April 17, 1917 the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” became the
official organ of the Tashkent Executive Committee, and from April, 25 - the Turkestan Committee of Temporary Government. From 9 November, 1917 the newspaper became the organ of the Turkestan region Executive Committee, from December 1 - the Council of National Commissars of the Turkestan region

World famous scientists as Nikolai Alexevich Severtsov (Zoologist, Explorer), Alexei Pavlovich Fedchenko (Biologist, Geographer, Traveler), Ivan Vasilevich Mushketov (Geologist, Geographer), Vasilii Vladimirovich Bartol’d (Orientalist, Arabist, Scholar of Islamic, Historian, Archivist), Lev Semenovich Berg (Geographer, Zoologist) took an active part in the development of the newspaper, as well as many other researchers who made a significant contribution to the study and growth of the region. Military scientists and orientalists also worked on the development of the paper as George Alexandrovich Aren-darenko, Alexandr Pavlovich Khoroshkin, Dmitrii Lvovich Ivanov, Vasilii Fedorovich Oshanin, Nikolai Pantusov, N.V. Dmitrevsky, M.N. Rostislavov, Alexandr Ludvigovich Kun, N.F. Petrovsky, Lev Feofanovich Kostenko, Afanasii Davidovich Grebenkin, Shahmardan Mirasuly Ibragimov, Sattarkhan Abdul Gafarov, Pavel Matveevich Zenkov, Nil Sergeevich Lykoshin, Nikolai Petrovich Ostroumov, O.A. Shkapsky, Andrei Evgenevich Snesarev, Vasilii Lavrentovich Vyatkin, Abubakir Ahmetjanuly Divayev and others.

A number of interesting articles written by the leader of the Kazakh intelligentsia Alikhan Bukeikhanov drew the readers’ attention. They were published under the pseudonyms Kyrgyz, Tuzemets (Local ethnos), Stepniak (Steppe-dweller), Turkestanets, Turkestantsov. The national political elite of Kazakhs as Seraly Lapin (L.S.), Ahmet Baytursunov (Observer), Beymbet Maylin (Eye) placed their works under pseudonyms. As well as the articles of the local intelligentsia as I. Ibragimov, Hogabai Zhetpisbayev and others had scientific value in terms of the study of the history of the region.

The authors of the articles were also Officials, Doctors, Teachers, Soldiers, Typographs, Engineers, Agronomists and Observers. In 1895 the number of permanent and casual authors reached 290. Particular scientific interest was presented in the research works of military orientalists. Many of them were the first trained investigators who visited the remote and less known regions of Central Asia and provided valuable scientific information (Russian military orientologists 2005).
The above-mentioned program and content of the newspaper showed that from the very first day of its existence the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was aimed at the study of the region in all aspects. It should be noted that the newspaper published governmental and administrative orders around Turkestan and informed the readers about the life of the region from the point of view of the colonial authorities. It couldn’t be stated that during its existence the newspaper did not make mistakes. The last quarter of the nineteenth century is said to be a period of violent class conflicts.

In the early twentieth century in Turkestan region during the first Russian revolution there were many clashes of the masses, the national-liberation movement of people in 1916, the foundation of the party “Alash” and its conventions. These and many other facts of the conflicts the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” tried to avoid and not to highlight.

News published during the World War I draw the readers’ attention. During the war there were newspaper columns as “European War” (1914-1916), “War” (1917) under section “The Western Front”, “The Caucasian Front”, “The Franco-Anglo-Belgian Front”, “Naval war”, “Colonial war”. The course of the military action was given by the official reports of the British admiralship, the UK headquarter in France and foreign newspapers offices as: “Leipriger Volksreitung”, “Berliner Tagebloft”, “De la Tribune de Geneve”, “Tempe”, “Pevue Hebdomadaire”, “New York Tribune”, “North German general newspaper”, “New York Evening Sun”. Official reports in these sections also informed about the position of Turkey, military operation of the Turkish troops. The newspaper office “New York Evening Sun” reported that the US had been on the verge of the crisis in relation with Turkey: “The US cruiser will be probably sent to the Mediterranean Sea to protect the lives and property of American citizens on the eastern coast of the sea, and if it is not be done, the American missionaries will receive an order to leave the territory of the Ottoman Empire. The newspaper added that the response of the Turkish port to the US protest concerning the spoliation and ill-will showed to the Consul agent in Damascus was accepted poor by Washington, the Turkish-American incident in the United States produces a certain impression. Washington is convinced that the Turkey’s position, just the same as the position occupied by Mexico is nothing but a new maneuver of Germany which is making an attempt to divert America’s
attention from the issue about the introduction of underwater war by the Germans, and to achieve a complete freedom of submarine actions without the fear of interference in the affair by America” (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1916: 172). The newspaper “Morning Post” under the title of “The Fate of Turkey Trade Fleet” reported about the fate of the destroyed ships, sailboats during the war (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1916: 253). The article “The Value of Asian Turkey” brought up a topic about the relations of Ottoman Empire with other countries involved in the World War I as well as the loss of military forces (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1916: 138).

In June 17, 1916 the headquarter of Expeditionary Force in Persia from Tehran reported about the four-day persistent battle towards Baghdad, the battle of Turkish Infantry Division with artillery and cavalry. In the subsection “Black Sea” you can find that in June, 18 the Submarine destroyed a huge sailing ship near the Bosporus. The team was released ashore on the boats. In the same issue from June, 17 under the title “Tehran. Turkish war” it was said that the prisoners had confirmed that the loss in some battalions reached up to 80% (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1916: 134).

In the subsection “Caucasus Front” it was reported about the battle and fight of Turkish askers (soldiers), as well as the death of the two schooners with coal and steam tug of Turkish troops near the Bosporus, the capture of a Turkish schooner and its departure to Sevastopol, and the capture of 39 Turkish people (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1917: 208). The subsection “Black Sea” informed about the destruction of 2 Turkish motor boats, the Turkish camp “Sivas” and the state of the prisoners in this camp (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1917: 179). In August 3, the newspaper gave readers the results of the war lasted for three years. Reflecting the huge disaster of the war the newspaper described the course of the actions of countries like Austria-Hungary, England, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Romania, the Republic of San Marino, the North American United States, Serbia, Turkey, France, Montenegro, Japan (Turkestanskie Vedomosti 1917: 170).

Inaccurate facts and figures were given in some articles, for example “The Population of Turkestan Region” (1905, №137, №165) gave false statistics concerning the region. But despite this, the paper gave a powerful impetus to the development of the press in the languages of the local people. Applica-
tion of the newspaper “Turkestan Vilayatinin’ gazeti” (Newspaper of Turk-
estan region) published in Uzbek and Kazakh languages³, which became an
independent issue from 1883 and in 1887 it renamed to “Turkestanskaya
tuzemnaya gazeta” (Newspaper of Turkestan local Ethnos). It was published
4 times a month: twice in the Uzbek language, and twice in the Kazakh. In
accordance with the order of Mihail Grigorevich Chernyaev (Order 29 from
January 30, 1883) the second newspaper became an independent weekly
newspaper in Uzbek language from 1883. Its Editors were Shahmardan
Ibragimov, Hasan Chanychev, Nikolai Ostroumov and Nikolai Gurevich
Mallitsky (Ernazarov 1976: 14, Ubileinyi nomer k otkrytiyu 1913). Shah-
mardan Ibragimov’s brother I. Ibragimov helped him. They were Bashkirs.
They were Chokan Ualihanov’s close friends. All Editors were good at Ka-
zakh and Uzbek languages.

The researchers interested in Turkestan region could find an abundance of
materials covering all aspects of region life on the pages of the “Turkestan-
skie Vedomosti”. The “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” is supposed to be a source
for the study of Central Asia history. Academician, world famous Orien-
talist Vasilii Bartol’d wrote: “Education of Turkestan region caused lively
scientific activities in the region for some time. The main goal of the works
was to study the region in geographic, natural-historic and statistic relation-
ship as well as special measures were taken oriented to the study of life of the
population and their past life. A significant number of articles on the history
of the region placed on the Official newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti”
(Bartol’d 1925: 262).

Researcher of history, culture and ethnography of the Kazakh and Bash-
kirs, Bibliographer Alexandr Efimovich Alektorov illustrated more than 100
articles taken from the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” in his book (Alektorov
1900). In bibliographic reference designed in 1891 Ethnographer, Anthro-
pologist Alexei Nikolaevich Haruzin named 50 articles from the “Turke-
stanskie Vedomosti” (Haruzin 1891). In Soviet times a great contribution
to the study of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was made by the famous
Central Asian Bibliographer Evgenii Karlovich Boettger. Evgenii Boettger
worked on the list of articles of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” from 1870
to 1892 (Boettger 1926). Significant value represents the annotated indica-
tor of articles compiled by E.A. Voznesensk and A.B. Piotrovsk (Materialy
dlya bibliografii Kazahstana 1927). But in all indicators many interesting articles and notes on the study of history and ethnography of the region were missing. The complete bibliographical indicator of articles from pages of the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” relating to the history and ethnography of Kazakhstan are presented in 2001 (Kartayeva 2001). Within the framework of the State program “Cultural Heritage” series of volumes of “Library of Kazakh Ethnography” were published, 44 volume consisted of series of articles from the “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” pages concerning to the spiritual life of the Kazakh people (Kartayeva 2007).

“Turkestanskie Vedomosti” and the Image of the Region

Under the leadership of Konstantin Petrovich Von Kaufman the program of the newspaper was compiled by tsarist military officials from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The official newspaper section placed all governmental measures relating to Turkestan region: distribution of orders and announcements made by the General-Governor, announcements and information from the headquarters of district and regional administrations, the Quartermaster’s control. It also included information about military operations, the movement of military forces, the Diplomatic Relations of the Governor-General with the khanates of Central Asia, as well as reports of the Aral Sea Flotilla, information about military engineering, military and topographical works, public works, mining, topographic survey works, government contracts and etc. Orders of executive body and instructions of Russia were placed in the same section of the newspaper in brief.

The structure of an informal section consisted of scientific articles and notes relating to the history, geography, ethnography and statistics of Turkestan region, namely: notes on the geological structure of the mountain masses of Asia, the local flora and fauna, ethnographic peculiarities of nomadic and settled lifestyle of people of Turkestan region, the local legends and beliefs, trade and industrial activities of the inhabitants of Turkestan territory, data on trade activity of Russia with Central Asia, meteorological observation notes about the public life in cities of Turkestan region, information sheets, bibliographic information about the published books, maps and plans relating to the Turkestan region and Central Asia (Central’nyi Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana, Fond I-1, Opis 20, Dela 1748: 2, 9, 9 ab, 49, 61, 83l).
Sections as “News”, “About the Region”, “Foreign News”, “Local News” covered reports; the section “St. Petersburg” highlighted some episodes from the life of the capital. In the section “Feuilleton” one could find the translated literature, novels, short stories. “The press about the Central Asia” gave a short review of the periodical publicationss of Russia and other countries, for example, a review of the newspaper “The Caspian”, “Odessa”, “St. Petersburg Vedomosti”, “Orenburg newspaper”, “Times”, “Pioner mail” and etc.

Short notes placed in the “News and Notes” section had a valuable information about the history of material culture of the people of Central Asia. Archaeological findings, discoveries of historical monuments were highlighted in it.

Much attention in the paper was paid to the issues of the development of the industry in the region. The paper systematically placed articles on improving varieties of cotton and rice of Central Asian, beekeeping, tobacco production which was one of the main goals of economic policy of the Russian state in the region. Numerous articles and notes had a descriptive character which reported about the productive forces of the Turkestan region, the composition of the population, its size and occupation. The newspaper published articles on trade activity very often. It also highlighted the cultural life of the settlers, notes about their relationship with the local people.

The “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” published materials about the ethnic processes of Kazakh people, the origin of the word “Kazakh”, information about resettlement of clans. Statistical, ethnographic, ethno-demographic articles were full of historical materials which present a valuable source for the study of the problems of the ethnogenesis of the Kazakh people. It should be noted that the newspaper paid much attention to the theme of socio-political system and social structure of the Kazakh community. Materials about the Kazakh economy could be encountered in all issues of the paper. There were given the characteristics of the state of the Kazakh nomadic and semi-nomadic cattle husbandry, described in detail the skillfulness of the Kazakhs in the rational use of pastures and green lands, about the route of nomadic migrations in different regions, about the traditional ways of farming. The paper covered articles on the development of Kazakh agriculture, the transition of Kazakhs from nomadic to settled lifestyle. These articles described
primitive irrigation facilities, methods of land cultivating and harvesting. The article focused on the issues of employment of Kazakhs with fishing and hunting, described traditional tools, different methods of fishing and hunting.

A number of materials devoted to the ethnic culture of the Kazakh people gave comprehensive information about the traditional, material and spiritual culture of the Kazakh people. Questions about ethnographic characteristics of the culture of the nomadic and settled people as housing, food, customs, beliefs, legends and folks, religion, family and marriage relations of the Kazakh people were considered in the paper.

Many staff members and correspondents of the paper studied thoroughly the ethnography of the Kazakh people. There were Nikolai Mayev, George Semenovich Zagryazhski, George Arendarenko, E. Alexandrov, Abubakir Divayev, Shahmardan Ibragimov among them. “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” in the years of its existence became to some extent a kind of “ethnographic body” (Masanov 1966: 186, Kartayeva 2007: 290).

A well-known Orientalist Vasilii Bartol’d stated: “Of all nations of the Turkish (Turkic) origin the researchers’ particular attention was paid to the Kirghiz-Kaysaks (Kazakhs) in view of its multiplicity and vastness of the territory occupied by them; there is a vast amount of literature dispersed in various published papers about these people in Russian language” (Bartol’d 1925: 250).

The periodicals contributed to the study of culture and life of the Kazakh people that time.

Turkestan scientists took the initiative in the ethnographic study of Kyzyl-Kum Kazakhs. In 1872 an Anthropologist Horoshhin Alexander (was born in about 1842 and died in 1875) visited this place, and published about three dozens of articles in “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” from 1869 to 1874. These articles were devoted to the ethnography of Kazakhs as “From Orenburg to Kazalinsk”, “From Kazalinsk to Tashkent”, “From Tashkent to Tokmak”, “Semirechye Essays”, “People of Central Asia”, “From the Road Notes from Samarkand to Orenburg”, “Following the Nomadic Kyrgyz (Kazakh) to the North-East and East of Tamdy”, “Kyzyl-Kum”, “Kyzyl-Kum Diary”. These articles printed in the pages of this newspaper were included in its collection of works (Horoshhin 1876).
A permanent representative of “Turkestanske Vedomosti” was a connoisseur of culture and life of Kazakh people George Zagryazhsky (a Military Officer and Orientalist), who was a commanding Officer from 1867 in Issyk-Kul, then in Tokmak, and since 1870 in Perovsky county. He was a member of the Central Asian scholar society and Turkestan department of Natural science society, anthropology and ethnography at the Moscow University. He wrote several significant works on the ethnography of the Kazakh and Kyrgyz people. The peculiarity of these works is its detailed coverage of a number of important ethnographic issues that other authors didn’t usually pay attention.

In a comprehensive article “Essays of Perovsk County” George Zagryazhsky showed that the Kazakhs knew the Syrdarya regime very well and skillfully used the flooding of the river in the interests of irrigated agriculture (Turkestanske Vedomosti 1872: 29). In the article “Life of Nomadic People of Chu and Syrdarya Valleys” the author highlights in detail the manners and customs of the Kazakh people, their style of life, beliefs, folklore, and some aspects of the economy and everyday life of nomadic village (Turkestanske Vedomosti 1874: 25-32). However, devoting his work to Kazakhs and Kirghiz, he gave common characteristics, but didn’t highlight their national and ethnographic peculiarities. Apparently, Zagryazhsky did not understand clearly that the Kazakhs and Kyrgyz are two separate nations, but related nations and have much common in history, culture and daily life.

A well-known researcher and collector of Kazakh ethnographic materials was Abubakir Divayev (1856-1933). In Turkestan he served from 1876 after the graduation from Neplyuevsk cadet corps in Orenburg. Abubakir Divayev was a frequent guest in the Kazakh villages. In the Kazakh villages he made many acquaintances and maintained friendly relations with the carriers and creators of folk poetry, connoisseurs of folk customs, traditions and legends, with the officials who assisted him in the work of collecting scientific materials. Among his correspondents and informants were Irkembek Ahenbekov, Kozhabay Amaldykov, Ish-Mohammed Bukin, Pir-Muhammad Toytanov, Mayl Hodge Sultanhodzhin.

Abubakir Divayev attached great importance to establishing the ties of folk poetry with work and life. Collecting the folklore, he tried to find out its origin and relation to people’s life. For example, writing down the funeral
lamentations, he asked the Kazakhs, how they bury the dead man and what place the lamentations take in the Kazakh funeral traditions “Zhoktau”\(^{10}\) (1896: 83). Traditions and legends of religious content were written down by him and other authors along with information about the Kazakh beliefs, superstitions and religion in general. If the beliefs and superstitions were connected with some graves, legendary people, natural phenomena, events, he wrote down the information about these graves, people, events, natural phenomena. For example, “Belief. Against the Wind” (1891: 25), “Calculation of the Time of Year in accordance with the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Style relating to National Signs” (1892: 5), “Belief. Call the Wind” (1892: 41), “The Legend about Hazrati-Ismail-Ata” (1911: 20, 24-25), “Alash-Khan” (a tale) (1902: 90), “How Aldar-Kose Cheated the Devil” (1903: 10), “The Legend about Great Adygey” (1908: 83), “Great Alpamys” (1916: 216-218) and others. Abubakir Divayev studied the Kazakh wedding and marital customs, and drew attention to some little-known details of the wedding ritual and printed the samples of wedding songs. He published in the pages of this newspaper interesting articles about the traditional people’s knowledge, for example, “Magic conspiracy against the bite of poisonous insects and reptiles” (1893: 7), “Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Diseases and the Ways to Treat them” (1902: 80 1903: 43), “Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Diseases and their Treatment by Singing Bedik” (1906: 59), “About the Giving Names in the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Culture” (1916: 206) and others.


Scientific-popular and analytical materials on the pages of “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” about the Kazakh people, a large part of which contains historical and ethnographic, ethno-folkloric materials are wide and there are thousands of bibliographic titles. They reveal a comprehensive scientific study of the Kazakh people in Russia, serve as a basis for further studies and preserve the known scientific value until now.
History of ethnographic study of the Kazakh people in Russia is a complex and contradictory process by its nature, the development of which was associated with both political and economic interests of tsarism in Kazakhstan steppes and the social and economic history of the Kazakhs themselves. The successes and achievements of Russian science of that time directly determined the success and achievements in the study of the Kazakhs.

**Conclusion**

With the formation of the Turkestan general-governorship in 1867 Tashkent became one of the largest centers of scientific study of nature and people of the Central Asia. In the second half of the XIXth century the scientific societies, library, printing houses appeared, newspapers and books were published, there were local staff of scientists by whom the scientific expeditions organized. Syrdarya Regional Statistics Committee, the Turkestan Society of Agriculture, Turkestan Circle of Archeology Lovers (1895-1917), Turkestan department of the Russian Geographical Society (1897-1917), Department of Oriental Studies Society (1901-1913) actively functioned. Famous military Orientalists and Turkestan scholars worked there. They worked hard in the field of a comprehensive study of Kazakh people and the region. They were first who made expeditionary research of previously completely unknown to science the group of Kazakh people, such as Kazakhs of Khivinsk oasis, Kyzyl-Kum, the valleys of Syrdarya river, collected valuable ethnographic materials, and much more in-depth, comprehensive and thoroughly than before, examined the culture and life of the Kazakhs. The results of their scientific activities were first published in the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti”.

“Turkestanskie Vedomosti” was the first printed newspaper in Central Asia designed to meet the needs of the tsarist colonial administration for all round study of the conquered region. The first issue was published in April 28 (May 10), 1870, the last one in December 15, 1917. Over 48 years of its existence 6406 issues were released. The scientific heritage of the paper is truly priceless – there were works about the history of the region, archeology, ethnography, demography, geography, folklore and materials about the ethnic culture of the people of Central Asia. Works of Military Orientalists were published in the paper. Military officials and military orientalists who had a special military Oriental education worked in the editorial office. Tashkent city, where
printing house of the paper was situated, considered to be a major military Oriental center in the Central Asia. The appearance of the newspaper gave a rise to the releasing of papers in languages of local people of Central Asia. The history of Kazakh periodical publications began with the newspaper “Turkestani Vilayatinin Gazeti” which was published as a supplement to “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” in Kazakh and Uzbek languages.

After the gaining of independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan the history of national press has been thoroughly studied. It gave an extra push to Kazakh journalism practice in the realization of new challenges and ideas. The aim of the present article is to show that “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” (1870-1971) and “Turkestani Vilayatinin Gazeti” (1870-1882) represent separate different printed papers. The use of the name of the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” as a translation of “Turkestani Vilayatinin Gazeti” by many writers and researchers led to the confusion of readers. It is important to note that the name of the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” is used in the scientific sphere without translation. As for “Turkestani Vilayatinin Gazeti” as a supplement to “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” had its own history as a separate printed paper.


The researchers interested in Turkestan Region and the Central Asia will find an abundance of materials covering all sides of life of the territory in “Turkestanskie Vedomosti”.

Notes

1 Ahmet Baitursynov was an organizer of the publication and editor of the socio-political and literary newspaper “Kazakh” published between 1913 – 1918, Mirzhakyp Dulatov was an authorized representative. A national leader Mustafa Shokai kept the newspaper with financial support. The function of the newspaper “Kazakh” was provided by the political elite of
that time. The founders and active participants of the Kazakh periodical publications as Alikhan Bukeikhanov, Magzhan Zhumabayev, Ahmet Bai-tursynov, Mirzhakyp Dulatov, Halel Dosmukhamedov, Ilias Zhasnugurov, Saken Seifullin and others were sentenced to death in 1937-1938 declared as “enemies of the people”.

Vedomost – is the same as document (in Kazakh language – «kujat»).

According to the old calendar April 28, the new one -10 May.

Great contribution to the development of the newspaper was made by its first editor Nikolai Mayev headed the newspaper from November 16, 1869 to November 4, 1892. He was replaced at different times by S. Baumgart and Mihail Bladimirovich Grulev. The editorial race continued by Sergei Andreevich Geppener - from 22 April, 1900 to 29 May, 1901 replaced at different times by Mihail Grulev, S. Baumgart, Sergei Geppener; Nikolai Mallitsky – from 5 November, 1901 to 9 January, 1907 replaced by E.K. Michailovski, I. Filippov; E.K. Michailovski – from 11 January, 1907 to 22 August, 1909 (replaced by I. Filippov); M.V. Levin – from 22 August, 1909 until the end of 1914 replaced at different times by E. Michailovski, I. Filippov, K. Predinsky, A. Orel, I.D. Pchelko. Skvortsov was an editor from 1914 to 1916, from 11 1917 – Vladimir Petrovich Nalivkin; from №87 – A.L. Lipovskii; from №162 – V.S. El’patevsky; from №166 – Vladimir Nalivkin; from №209 – I.E. Bel’kov, from №235 – V.L. Podpalov; from №247 – F. Kolesov. All editors were military investigators. (Central’niy Gosudarstvennyi Arhiv Uzbekistana: Fund I-I. Series 33, Dos’e 249, 303, Avsharova 1960: 65-66).

Kyrgyz. In the publications and literatures of the 19th century the Europeans and Russian scientists wrote down the name of the Kazakh people as “Kyrgyz-kaysaks” or “Kyrgyz” and the name of the Kyrgyz was written as “Kara-Kyrgyz”. Therefore Alikhan Bukeikhanov chose the pseudonym “Kyrgyz”.

Tuzemets. Russian invaders used the term “Tuzemets” to call local ethnic groups. It also served as a pseudonym to Alikhan Bokeikhanov.

Vilayat – an ancient word, has the same meaning as country, region.

Kazakh language. That time the Kazakh words printed in Arabic letters – tote jazy.

Ethnographic materials have a special interest among scientists and researchers. The newspaper pages are full of historical and ethnographic materials, which are considered to be a valuable source for the study of the problems of the ethnogenesis of the Kazakh people, as well as to study the socio-political system of Kazakh society, economy and craft development of the Kazakhs. The newspaper
published the course of ethno-archeological study and protocols of Turkestan club of those who are interested in archeology. In issues №90-92 of the newspaper there were information about the state of this club and threat of the damage of Dede Korkut grave in 1897. It was stated that “The Korkut grave is about to damage.” In 1899 №92 of this newspaper Nogaibai Zhetpysbayev published a legend associated with the name of Dede Korkut.

Zhoktau - ritual song of the Kazakhs, mourning for the dead. In ancient time people made mourning for the dead every morning for forty days, during the migration and the death day as well. Abubakir Divayev wrote down several versions of “zhoktau”. Abubakir Divayev translated the word “Zhoktau” as “Lamentation”.

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"Türkistanskie Vedomosti" Gazetesi ve Orta Asya Basınının Tarihi Gelişimi*

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Öz


Makalenin temelinde de kanıtlandığı gibi, Orta Asya ve Türkistan bölgesi ile ilgilenen araştırmacılar "Türkistanskie Vedomosti" gazetesi sayfalarında bölgedeki hayatın tüm yönlerini kapsayan meseleler hakkında zengin bir kaynak bulabileceklerdir. Gazetenin toplumdaki siyasi durumları, dünyadaki haberleri tam zamanında yayılmasını, özellikle I. Dünya Savaşı’nda gerçekleşen olayların tarihi kayıtları dikkat çekicidir.

Anahtar Kelimeler
Türkistanskie Vedomosti, gazete, basın yayımı, Türkistan bölgesi, Orta Asya.

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Газета «Туркестанские Ведомости» И Начало Развитии Истории Печати В Средней Азии*

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Абстракт

Газета «Туркестанские ведомости» (1870-1917 годы) является первым в Средней Азии печатным изданием, созданным в силу нужд царской колониальной администрации для всестороннего изучения завоеванного края. В данной статье привлечен ряд архивных источников, касающихся истории данной газеты.

В неофициальном блоге данной газеты печатались научные, научно-практические, научно-популярные статьи по истории, этнографии и по фольклору народов Средней Азии. На страницах «Туркестанские ведомостей» давалась характеристика состоянию традиционного скотоводства, описывались маршруты кочевок в разных регионах и освещался вопрос развития земледелия, методы обработки земли, уборки урожая. Регулярно печатались статьи по этнической культуре народов Средней Азии.

Исследователи, интересующиеся Туркестанским краем и Средней Азии, найдут на страницах «Туркестанские ведомостей» обилие материалов, охватывающих все стороны жизни края, что доказывается на основе данной научной статьи. В газете также обращают свое внимание на политические новости происходящие в обществе и мире, особенно на рубрики касающиеся 1-ой мировой войны.

Ключевые слова

Туркестанские ведомости, газета, печатные издание, Туркестанский край, Средняя Азия.

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