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## On Demographic Issues of Samarkand Region (Second Half of the 19th Century - Early 20th Century)

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### ABSTRACT

This scientific article analyzes the demographic processes that took place in the Samarkand region on the basis of colonial political, socio-economic policy in the second half of the XIX and early XX centuries. The growth dynamics of the population, economic and marriage relations as a result of the resettlement policy, migration and trade relations are highlighted.

### KEYWORDS

colonial period, Samarkand region, demographic processes, population census, dynamics, statistics.

### INTRODUCTION

In the world history of the XIX-XX centuries, the colonial policy of the imperialist states had a serious impact on the social and political life of the regions. Demographic processes were especially complicated in the colonial territories. In particular, in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the characteristics of the demographic processes in the Central Asian region were characterized by changes under the influence of colonial policy, migration, the formation of artificial pluralism and other factors.

Currently, the problem of demographic processes in the colonial territories of the Russian Empire has become the main object and subject of many studies. Such studies can be divided into groups of works conducted in Uzbekistan, the CIS and abroad. The historiography of the problem shows that the problem of demographic processes in the case of Turkestan and its regions under colonial conditions has not been studied separately and completely. However, it is worth noting that in existing studies, the national-ethnic composition of the country's population, some demographic issues are highlighted based on the population census data. Here, in this scientific work focused on the Samarkand region, the population dynamics, natural reproduction, economic and other information are highlighted, and it clarifies some demographic processes that took place in this country.

The first population census conducted by the Russian Empire in 1897 sheds light on the demographic situation not only of Turkestan, but also of one of its densely populated regions -

Samarkand region. Samarkand region is located in the south-western part of Turkestan general governorate. It was established in 1886 on the basis of Zarafshan district (1868) according to the "Regulations on the administration of Turkestan territory" and consisted of Jizzakh, Kattakorgan, Samarkand and Khojand uyezds.

While the 1897 census provides some clarity on the country's demographics, it also has some shortcomings. Governor General of Turkestan K. It can be seen in the conclusions of the administrative commission headed by Palen on the accounting activities of the regional statistical committees. In particular, about this: "It cannot be said that it is correct until the district administration collects data on population activities, marriages, births and deaths, and religious beliefs every year. Because, in this regard, no metric records are transferred from the "tuzemets", in

turn, the work of determining the income and deficit of households assigned to the volost managers is usually not performed. In addition, the tables and records developed by the committees are so complicated that they are filled with the power of workers with low literacy and education in the precinct and volost administrations. Not to mention the staff who don't speak Russian well" [1.309310], opinions were expressed.

Based on such a conclusion, the researcher R. Sifman also points out that there are difficulties in making estimates of natural reproduction in Central Asia before the revolution. The author notes such statistical deficiencies in the lists of births and deaths in the Syrdarya and Samarkand regions by the Statistical Committees. For example, in the years 1897-1901, the birth rate in Samarkand region was given as an average of 6 people per 1,000 people per year, while for Syrdarya region it was 13.1 people per 1,000 people, and the death rate was 6.4-7.5 people per 1,000 people. The author emphasizes that comparing such an indicator with the average natural reproduction rate in Central Asia in 1903-1914 was 14 per 1000 people, the difference is not big.

In addition to the above information, there were some inaccuracies in the demographic calculations conducted in the country. But on the other hand, the available data give some vivid impressions about the demographics of the population during the period under review. Because the data of the 1897 census, which was conducted for the first time in Central Asia, sheds some light on the demographic landscape of the pre-colonial Khanate. In particular, in this regard, the statistical data collected for the Samarkand region are noteworthy. According to the population registration data of 1897, the total population of the region was 860,021 thousand people (both sexes), of which 472,443 (54.92 %) were men and 387,578 thousand were women (45.08 %).

If the population is compared with the Zarafshan district in 1872, that is, the district consisting only of Samarkand, Kattakorgan departments and the mountainous districts located above Zarafshan, the difference can be seen to be significant. In particular, 280,950 people were counted in the district this year, and by 1897, due to the expansion of the region with the addition of some uyezds to the region, the population reached 860,021 thousand people [4. P.120]. In addition, this growth was greatly influenced by the socio-economic changes that took place in the region (commodity-money, trade relations, production, construction of railways). In the composition of the region's population, there is an increase in the ethnic composition, along with indigenous national groups - Uzbeks, Tajiks, Jews, Persians, Gypsies, Afghans, Indians, and later migrants from the European part of Russia, the Volga, Siberia, the Caucasus, and other regions. The total number of indigenous peoples in Samarkand region was 707,674,000 in 1889, 840,077,000 in 1897, and 904,960,000 in 1914.

In the region, 5.83 percent of the population was engaged in trade and 4.35 percent in private service, labor and service activities, and the rest of the activities are a small percentage. The

population of the region has a sedentary, semi-settled and nomadic lifestyle, 84.26 percent of the population lived in rural areas and 15,733 percent lived in urban areas.

There are also persons with physical disabilities among the population of the region, and the first place is occupied by the blind. Mental patients were next (about 1/5), followed by deaf-mutes. The lowest percentage of patients was 1-9 years old, and the highest percentage was 20-29 years old (20.28%). After that, this indicator decreases with age and the highest group (60 years and older) is (17.93%) [10. S. IX].

In short, Samarkand region is a region that stands out in terms of population and density in the Turkestan region. The results of the first population census, which was held for the first time in 1897, clarify the demographic processes not only of the Turkestan region, but also of the Samarkand region. The influx of Russian capital, the development of commodity-money, [Б.78].

production relations, the expansion of trade and industrial sectors, in turn, had an impact on the demographic processes in the region. The percentage of men in the total population of the region was slightly higher. The dynamics of the population and the increase in the number of farms were also greatly influenced by socio-political factors.

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