

Semi-Nomadic Ethnic Communities in the Ferghana Valley at the end of the 19th - Beginning of the 20th Century

Olimov Nodirbek Anvarjon O'g'li

Andijan State University

Based Doctorant

Annotation: This article provides information about the semi-nomadic population of the Ferghana Valley in the late 19th - early 20th centuries. The article examines the location of the semi-nomadic population in the valley regions and their division into clans. The amount of semi-nomadic population in Ferghana Valley regions is also mentioned in this article.

Key words: Semi-nomadic, settled life, Kyrgyz, Karakalpak, Kipchaks, Kazakhs, ethnopolitical processes, migration processes

Introduction

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a certain part of the population lived in a nomadic way, along with a sedentary lifestyle in the Fergana Valley. In the 70s of the 19th century, 60,000 or more than 30% of the total 192,000 households in the Kokan Khanate lived as semi-nomads. According to Niyozmuhammad Khoqandi's "History of Shahruhi", the semi-nomadic population of the Ferghana Valley was made up of Kyrgyz, Karakalpak, Kipchak, Chonbagish, Turk and Kalmyks [3 - P.78].

Since the 70s of the XIX century, the transition of the semi-nomadic population to a sedentary lifestyle has accelerated, and this process can be attributed to the death of livestock as a result of some natural disasters[5 - P.351]. The rapid transition of the nomadic cattle-breeding ethnic groups to a sedentary lifestyle led to a decrease in their share in the population of the valley. In other words, the number of semi-nomadic population in the valley decreased year by year. We can see this from the statistics. In the 80s of the 19th century, the total population of the Ferghana Valley was more than 729,000, of which 124,000 or 17% lived as nomads [4 - P.326].

Relevance and current status of the topic

In this period, the nomadic population was more in Andijan, Osh, Namangan uyezds than in other uyezds of Fergana region. For example, 34% of the population of Andijan uezd led a nomadic life during this period.

The main occupation of the Kyrgyz, Karakalpak, semi-nomadic Uzbeks and their clans who lived in the Fergana Valley was animal husbandry. It is known from history that after the conquest of the Kokan Khanate, the Russian Empire carried out a policy of relocating the population to the valley regions. Most of the resettled people were settled in semi-nomadic and semi-rural areas of Osh, Andijan and partially Namangan uyezds. Due to the seizure of the pastures, which are the main source of livelihood of the semi-breeding population, their cattle breeding will decrease [1 - P.28]. Due to these changes, the settlement of cattle herders living in the Ferghana Valley at the end of

the 19th century accelerated.

At the end of the 19th century, 30 thousand Kyrgyz households settled in Osh uezd of Fergana region. Of course, some officials, who understood the importance of livestock and livestock products, were against the settlement of the herding population [2 - P.121].

In 1908-1909, Count , who inspected the Turkestan region. K. Palen approved the formation of volosts and ovus in the regions inhabited by the nomadic population (Kyrgyz, Kazakh, Karakalpak, Turkmen) and that a single chief would manage the large number of clans in them [6 - P.9].

By analyzing the statistical documents called "Place names of Fergana region" written in 1909, it will be possible to clarify the areas where the semi-nomadic population of the Fergana valley lived and the number of inhabitants in them. In Naygut-Kipchak volost of Kokan uezd, about 10,000 people or only 2.2% of the total population of the uezd were semi-nomadic. 6800 people or 1.5% of the total population in the Yaukesek-Bo'ston region of Margylan uezd had a semi-nomadic way of life.

Conduct research

About 6,000 people in Arim Volost of Namangan Uezd, 10,300 people in Saruy Volost, 11,500 people in Kirq-Ugul Volost, 4,300 people in Chotkal Volost, 9,300 people in Susamir Volost, a total of 41,400 people or 9.4% of the total population of Namangan Uezd were semi-nomadic households. There are 4,100 people in Moylisay Volost of Andijan Uezd, about 4,000 people in Bozorkurgan Volost, 3,650 people in Karakol-Seresui Volost, 5,130 people in Kenko'l-Karagir Volost, 5,700 people in Chankent Volost, 6,100 people in Kogart Volost, 12,500 people in Uzgan Volost, 10,000 in Yassi Volost. More than 51,000 people or 12.2% of the total population of the uezd lived as semi-nomads [7 - P.1-153].

Analysis of the obtained results

The territories of Osh uezd are divided into separate settled and nomadic parts, and the nomadic part of the uezd includes such volosts as Oloy, Kapchigai, Gulcha, Kurshab. More than 49,000 people or more than 26% of the total population lived semi-nomadically in Osh uezd [7 - P.1-153].

As can be seen from the above information, we can know that more than 158,000 people or 8.1% of the total population of Fergana region lived as semi-nomads. So, at the beginning of the 20th century, in addition to Kyrgyz, Karakalpak, and peninsular Uzbeks, a small number of Kazakh, Turkmen, and Kalmyk residents also had a nomadic lifestyle in the Fergana Valley.

The Kyrgyz and Karakalpaks made up the majority of the semi-nomadic population in the Fergana Valley. In addition, semi-settled Uzbeks and some of their ethnographic groups were engaged in animal husbandry. Nomadic herding peoples, such as Kazakhs, Kalmyks, and Turkmens, who were a minority in terms of numbers, also lived in the valley regions.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the population of the Ferghana Valley changed from a nomadic lifestyle to a more settled lifestyle very quickly. This was caused by natural and political factors. The share of semi-nomadic population in the Fergana Valley was 30% in the 70s of the 19th century, and this figure decreased to 8.1% in the early 20th century.

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