

Historiography of the Study of Animal Husbandry of The Lower Amudarya (1873-1941)

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Abstract: In this article, we have done a lot of work on the development of animal husbandry in the Amudarya region and its coverage in historical sources. As a result, we have the information we need for the future, and we have brought this to the appearance of the article.

Keywords: animal husbandry, pastoralism, totalitarian regime, analysis of historical events.

1. Historiographic analysis convinces us that certain literature has already been accumulated in certain areas of the topic under study. Based on the content of conceptual and methodological approaches, it can be divided into three groups. The first of these includes publications from the beginning of the 20th century, the second - from the Soviet era, and the third includes studies undertaken after Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan gained independence.

Thus, a number of works published in the period before 1917 contain some information about the development of animal husbandry in Central Asia, including Karakalpakstan in the 18th - early 20th centuries. Another author of the eighteenth century. P. Rychkov wrote that the Karakalpaks bred mainly cattle, much less - horses, rams and goats, and even less often - camels. In the works of N. Ignatiev, A.I. Shakhnazarov, O. Shkapsky, G. Danilevsky, B. Andrianov, A. Khoroshkin, V. Lobachevsky, as well as in the "Materials on the survey of nomadic and settled indigenous economy and land use in the Amudarya department of the Syrdarya region" there are materials on the development of animal husbandry in Central Asia before the October Revolution and their significance for the Russian economy.

Of particular interest to us are also the works of Girshfeld and Galkin, A.V. Kaulbars and K.K. Palen. Thus, according to Hirshfeld and Galkin, the Karakalpaks of the Shumanai Bekstvo and the Chimbay section of the Amudarya Department were the main suppliers of cattle in all markets of the oasis. In the work of A.V. Kaulbars provides data on the state of animal husbandry of settled and nomadic Karakalpaks. In the chapter "The influence of terrain on the way of life", the author notes that, "many of the interior dry spaces in the delta, not capable of arable farming, but abundant in fodder for livestock, could support a nomadic life. Sections of the delta that are not irrigated by a constant current are very suitable for nomadic life. In the chapter "Wealth of the settled Karakalpaks" it is noted that the main branch of the economy of the settled Karakalpaks is arable farming on artificially irrigated lands, and cattle breeding is in second place. The richness of the region in livestock is noted. In the chapter "Wealth of the nomadic Karakalpaks", the author notes that their main occupation is animal husbandry, indicating that the main place in it belongs to cattle, along with which there are quite a lot of sheep and goats, few horses and even fewer camels. According to the audit of Senator K.K. On average, there were 52.46 heads of cattle per farm in the Daukara volost, 12.73 in the Kegeyly volost, and 11.66 in the Chimbay volost. Exploring these volosts, K.K. Palen divided the local population into six groups according to the state of the livestock economy.

Relatively close to our topic are the materials of the Resettlement Administration, devoted to the results of a survey of nomadic and settled land use farms in the Amu Darya department, where there is sufficient information and digital data on farms in the right-bank Karakalpakstan at the beginning of the 20th century. However, these and other above-mentioned works do not objectively and fully cover the history of animal husbandry in Karakalpakstan and, basically, pursue one goal - complete colonization of the region. In these works, there is no data showing the real picture of the situation of dekhkan farms, the goal of the Russian bourgeoisie is veiled - to turn Central Asia into a raw material base for tsarist Russia. However, in the works of these authors, we find information showing the state of animal husbandry in the Khiva Khanate and the Amu Darya department at the end of the 19th - beginning of the 20th century.

2. Rich material on animal husbandry in the region is available in the literature of the Soviet period. It can be grouped according to periods, nature and content as agricultural, economic and historical literature. In the published works of this period, the work of P. Ivanov, who characterizes the economy of the Karakalpak in the 18th century, is close to the topic of our study: "The specific natural features of the delta region did not allow the Karakalpaks of the 18th-19th centuries. concentrate entirely on agriculture and contributed to the development of another branch of their economy - cattle breeding. It is impossible to make large migrations and use, thus, pasture reserves forced the Karakalpaks to use reeds as the main feed for livestock, significant thickets of which still cover the area in the lower reaches of the river. The same circumstance, apparently, influenced the composition of the herd, in which, in contrast to the Kazakh nomadic economy, the Karakalpaks are dominated by cattle with an extremely limited economy of rams and goats. For the winter season, the Karakalpaks were harvesting reed feed. The opinion of P.P. Ivanov is based on the evidence of many sources.

This feature of pastoralism among the Karakalpaks, observed in the 18th century in the lower reaches of the Syr Darya, was preserved in the 19th century in the Amudarya delta. Therefore, S.P. Tolstov is right, arguing that "cattle breeding in the first half of the 19th century remained a characteristic feature of the Karakalpak economy. For cattle and horses, it was practiced to prepare food for the winter - reed hay, rice straw, millet, wheat, barley, as well as dzhugara and alfalfa stalks.

It should be noted that a prominent place in the historiography of Karakalpakstan, especially agriculture and livestock in particular, is occupied by the 30s of the twentieth century. The collection of data and the study of many issues, including the history of Karakalpakstan, began in connection with a conference on the study of the productive forces of the region, held in 1933 in Leningrad. The proceedings of this conference, published in two volumes, contain the most valuable materials on the national economy, including agriculture in Karakalpakstan. During these years, the works of K. Avezov and P. Varlamov, as well as N. Moskovkin, appeared, in which, along with issues of the political life of this period, some issues of the restoration and development of agriculture in Karakalpakstan were highlighted.

Information about animal husbandry in Karakalpakstan is available in a special brochure published in 1939 for agitators and propagandists for elections to local councils of Karakalpakstan, developed by the State Planning Commission using the reporting materials of the Department of National Economic Accounting of Karakalpakstan, which contains brief information about the main results of the economic and cultural construction of Karakalpakstan for the period from 1932-1938. Materials on animal husbandry in Uzbekistan are also available in the report of U. Yusupov, who spoke at the solemn meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR, dedicated to the 15th anniversary of Uzbekistan on December 23, 1939, and published in a book on agriculture in Uzbekistan for 15 years.

In the postwar years, starting from the 1950s, the number of works devoted to agriculture increased dramatically. Monographic studies on agriculture in general and animal husbandry in particular appear on the Turkestan and Uzbekistan scale, and a number of Ph.D. dissertations on the history of agriculture are also defended. However, these works either partially cover the history of animal husbandry in certain regions of Uzbekistan, or are devoted to individual, albeit important, issues of the development of agriculture in Uzbekistan. In addition, they were devoted mainly to the post-war period and, of course, they did not find a place to study the history of animal husbandry in Karakalpakstan during the period under consideration (1873-1941).

At the same time, it should be noted that the historiography of Karakalpakstan has become much richer in the post-war period. Scientific studies of an agricultural-economic and historical nature were published. Significant material on agriculture and animal husbandry is available in the materials on the productive forces of Uzbekistan. Of the historical literature of this period, the works of A.M. Aminov, A.S. Sadykov, A.Sh. Yuldashev, R.Kh. Aminov, R. Rizaev, I. Alimov, R.K. Karimov, R.A. Nurulin, S. Kamalov, R. Kosbergenov, Tukhtamedov, Y. Dosumov, S. Tatybaev, J. Ubbiniyazov, K. Sarybaev, K. Ametov, K. Kalimbetov and others. In the studies of these authors, devoted to certain periods in the history of the peoples of Uzbekistan and in particular the Karakalpak people, there is significant material on agriculture and animal husbandry in the period before and after the October Revolution. Some information about the agriculture of Karakalpakstan is also found in the works of such famous ethnographers as T.A. Zhdanko, U. Shalekenova and others.

Material on animal husbandry is available in works devoted to the history of Karakalpakstan (in two volumes), statistical collections prepared by the statistical department, collective works devoted to the history of Karakalpakstan in the Soviet period.

Thus, the analysis of historiography before and after the October period shows that the history of animal husbandry in Karakalpakstan from the end of the 19th century to 1941 and up to the present time has not been specially studied. It should be noted that in the process of studying historiographic materials, the following facts should be stated: in the literature of the pre-October period, there is factual material on animal husbandry in Karakalpakstan. But for the most part, these data, collected from second and even third-hand sources, are not always reliable, not generalized, and not deeply analyzed. The works of this period were written in the spirit of colonial policy and protect the interests of the tsarist Russian Empire. Uncertainty, especially of statistical materials, certainly hinders the study, preventing in some cases from drawing conclusions on compared statistical data, since they are full of confusing data.

The characteristic features of the historiography of the Soviet period are the expansion of the source base, the growth of scientific personnel and the peculiarity of methodological concepts. The limited access to archival materials and the rigid ideological conjuncture did not allow historians to cover many problematic issues for many years and led to one-sided research. That is why, when studying the historiography of this period, an objective analysis of historical events on the problem we are studying is required.

Only after the independence of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan was proclaimed did historiography begin an objective analysis of archival documents and a critical study of historiographical and other literature. In historiographic works, the policy and the meaning of the actions of the Bolshevik center in relation to the national republics began to really show, to speak truthfully about the price our people paid for the establishment of a totalitarian regime. The works studied by us, of course, help to comprehend these historical processes in a new way.

At the same time, it should be emphasized that the problems of the new history of Karakalpakstan are still studied insufficiently deeply and widely. Especially the history of animal husbandry, which played an important role in the fate of the peoples of Uzbekistan, did not receive its deep and comprehensive study. The lack of a comprehensive study determined the choice of our topic.

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