



## Socio-Economic Life Of The Uzbek Khanies In “Journey To Bukhara” By Alexander Burnes

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<i>Article History</i>	<i>Abstract</i>
Received: 24 November 2023 Revised: 12 December 2023 Accepted: 27 December 2023	<i>This article analyzes the information about the socio-economic life of the Uzbek khanates in Alexander Burnes's "Journey to Bukhara".</i>
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### 1. Introduction

There are many sources and literature on the history of Central Asian khanates, among which the works of Russian and European scientists are of particular importance. These works mainly consist of the information collected during their travels, and they recorded the information they saw about the social-political, cultural-ethnic structure of the Khanate. One such work is Alexander Burnes's "Journey to Bukhara". The work serves as a great resource for studying the history of not only Central Asia, but also India, Afghanistan and Iran in the 18th and 19th centuries. He wrote this work from 1831-1833, starting from Punjab, Afghanistan, Central Asia, Persia, and returning to Bombay, India.

"Travels to Bukhara" can be divided into political, economic, cultural and historical sections. Burns notes the following information about the political processes related to the Bukhara Emirate: takes orders from the commander. Sharia ensures that law and justice go hand in hand, people are happy, the country prospers, trade thrives and property is protected. Amir Haydar's rule ushered in a period of religious fervor. He received the name "Amir-ul Mominin" or "Prince of the Believers"; and fulfilled the duties not only of the ruler, but also of the priest: he prayed over the dead, debated with scholars on various topics in mosques, taught in madrasa [1.275]. Also, "... Bukhara has close relations with India, Iran, Afghanistan and especially Russia in foreign policy. He asks for specialists in many fields to be sent from the Russian government, seeks to communicate with the Russians in the military field" [2.123], notes information about the internal and foreign policy of the Bukhara Emirate. In particular, information about the fact that Amir Heydar sent an ambassador to the Russian Empire to prevent the sale of steel to the Bukhara Emirate for the military and to prevent the robbery of trade caravans B. Ismailova refers to the period of Amir Haidar's administration of the Bukhara Emirate (1800–1826). also noted in his treatise [3.95].

During the Burns expedition, the economic relations of the Central Asian khanates were the focus of special attention. Because one of the main goals of his expedition was exactly that. In the chapters of the book "Travels to Bukhara" entitled "Foreign trade relations of Bukhara and Central Asia with foreign countries" and "Yor kent's cooperation with Beijing, Tibet, Bukhara" the trade and economic relations were highlighted. Burnes said of Bukhara's bazaars, "...here one can converse with the merchants of Persia, Turkey, Russia, Turkey, China, India, and Kabul." From morning till night, the crowds raise their voices, and one can be amazed at the number of people on the move. In the middle of the square, a seasonal fruit vendor sells one covered pole under a rectangular thyme shade. Fruit sellers sell grapes, melons, apricots, apples, peaches,

pears and plums, and treat customers well" [4.254]. Mir Izzat Ulla, who traveled from India to Central Asia in 1812-1813 and visited Bukhara and Kokkan, wrote in his travel diaries that markets in Bukhara are on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays. wrote that there was a horse market on Wednesdays near the tomb of Khwaja Bahauddin Naqshband behind the city wall [5.48]. Indian traders who came to Bukhara bought a lot of horses from here [6.91]. There are about 300 Indians in Bukhara who live in their caravanserai. They are mainly natives of Shikarpur in Sindh and their numbers have increased considerably in recent years.[7,260] The increase of Indian merchants in the markets of Central Asian countries was certainly beneficial for the British government. British goods were brought by sea to the port of Abush (Bandar-Abbas), and from there to Shiraz by a ten-day caravan route. From here, trade goods went to Central Asia in two ways. The road leading to Bukhara through Herat was safe, easy and close to the direction of the cities of Mashhad and Marv[8.125]. English thin gauze, English chits made of different types of cotton and scarves of different colors were brought to Bukhara through Kabul [9.105].

Bukhara had active contacts with Kokand, Yorkent, East Turkestan, and China in foreign trade. Chinese tea was especially in demand in Bukhara. Burns noted in his data that in mid-August 1832, a very large trade caravan arrived in Bukhara from China.

Although political relations between Bukhara and Kokan are not good, this did not hinder the development of trade. The Bukhara Emirate was in the main place in the foreign trade of the Kokan Khanate. Kokan merchants were engaged in trade in the markets of Bukhara and had the opportunity to trade with Afghanistan, India, Iran, Arab countries, Turkey and other countries through the caravan routes that passed through its territory. 10.134]. From the Kokand Khanate to the markets of Bukhara, raw silk, silk gauze and semi-silk fabrics made in the Khanate, kalava yarn, wet and dry fruits, Russian iron and cast iron and Russian steel products, Kashgar silk and silk fabrics, Chinese goods. - tea, porcelain, attar goods and silk fabrics were brought [11.97].

During his trip to Bukhara, Burns pays special attention to studying the customs, rituals, population of different regions, and their ethnic composition. He learned information about the origin of the names of regions and people of all the countries he visited, not only Bukhara. In writing these, Burns also relied on the historians of Amir Temur's era and Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur's "Baburnoma". For example, he writes about the city of Kabul: "Everyone knows that Kabul is a very ancient city; people consider it to be 6000 years old. In the 11th century, under the rule of Mahmud Ghaznavi, it became a great city together with the capital. It is said that Kabul used to be called "Zabul" after the infidel king who founded it, hence the name Zabulistan. Some authors claim that the name Kabul refers to the remains of the cemetery or to Cain, the son of Adam, and there is a popular belief that when Satan was cast out of heaven, he fell into Kabul. There is also information that Kabul was founded by Alexander, but this is not clear. Herat and Lahore were built during the time of Alexander. Kandahar is said to be the older city of the two"[12.223].

Burnes touched on the peculiarities of the Uzbek people and described the Uzbeks as "Uzbeks are a simple people, they talk to you in an interesting tone, and they get to know you quickly. Some expressions are repeated a lot among Muslims, the most common of which are: "May your wealth increase" (dovlut zyada) or (oomur duraz) "May your life be long"... when you walk in the market, say "O followers of Islam, see the punishment of those who break the law ring! you will hear voices saying, this is a way of punishing those who break the laws" [13.145]. A similar definition can be seen in the "Reminiscences" of N.I. Muravyov, who came to the Khanate of Khiva as a Russian ambassador in 1819, in which he describes the Uzbeks as "intelligent, pleasant and sharp in conversation, determined, tenacious , described as brave and courageous people whose customs are simple, who hate lies and deception, who do not hesitate in military work" [14.156].

As a result of the expedition of Alexander Burnes, the British were able to collect a large amount of espionage intelligence in Central Asia. This further contributed to the expansion of trade between India and the Khanate. Because Great Britain was interested in the introduction of British goods to Central Asia through the territory of India. "A Journey to Bukhara" by Alexander Burns is an important source of information about the political, socio-economic, military and other spheres of the Bukhara Emirate of Kokand and Khiva Khanates.

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