



BUKHARA IN 1920 (FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY)

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ABSTRACT

The article deals with illegal actions of Turkestan front headed by M. Frunze, who made an armed invasion into Bukhara emirate as a result of which Sacred Bukhara turned into ruin, the struggle between supporters and opponents of new social and economic relations intensified.

Keywords: *Bukhara Khanate, Turkish fronts, Russian settlements, New Bukhara, Kagan group of troops, MladoBukhartsis (Youth of Bukhara)*

In October 1917 in St. Petersburg, as a result of an armed coup and seizure of power, the Soviet system headed by Lenin was established.

All events that took place in socio-economic, political and other spheres of life in Russia took place in its former colony Turkestan region.

The Bukhara Khanate, while nominally remaining an independent state, was in fact under strong influence and direct interference from the Soviet authorities in internal affairs and foreign policy.

Soviet historiography, one-sidedly covering the relationship between Soviet Russia and the Emirate of Bukhara in 1917-1920, claimed that the Emir of Bukhara pursued a hostile policy towards Soviet Russia. In fact, Soviet Russia saw the Emirate of Bukhara as a center of counterrevolution against the Soviet system and the main pillar of international intervention against the country of the Soviets.

Nothing can explain and justify the marching of the chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Turkestan Republic F.I. Kolesov to Bukhara in 1918. The Soviet authorities without declaring war or having any reasons undertook a campaign to the capital of the neighbouring state.

The attempt to overthrow the Emir was defeated, it was crowned with success of Bukhara wars and the population that rose to the "holy war" against unbelievers.

After March events of 1918 mutual relations of the Soviet Russia and Bukhara emirate become sharpened. The new historical situation has forced opponents of a feudal system in Bukhara in the person of a party of youth of Bukhara to search for supporters from outside, and the Soviet authority actively supported antiemir elements inside the country. Thus an alliance was formed between two forces of internal and external enemies of Bukhara Emir who led to the overthrow of the monarchy in September 1920.

The Youth of Bukhara Party and the Bukhara Communist Party have established close links with the Communist Party of Russia and Turkestan. Under the pretext of building up the armed forces and transition to anti-Soviet policy on the part of the Emir, Commander of the Turkestan front M.I.Frunze began to take measures aimed at protecting the "gains of the revolution.

In the system of measures aimed at preparation of the Bukhara operation a special place was occupied by the defense of Russian settlements away from the railway in the territory of Bukhara Emirate - new Bukhara,

Chardzhou, Termez. These cities, especially the new Bukhara (Kagan), were tactically advantageous strongholds for the Turkmen front troops, the loss of which could lead to serious consequences.

On August 16-19, the fourth congress of the Bukhara Communist Party was held, which adopted a historic resolution "On the organization of the Bukhara Revolution".

The authors of the Soviet period claim in their publications that guided by the decisions of the congress the Revolutionary Committee and the Bukhara Communist Party raised the people to fight against the government, the Revolutionary Committee on behalf of the Bukhara people appealed for help to Soviet Russia.

The commander-in-chief of the Turkestan front of the Red Army M.V.Frunze since August, 13th there was a two-week preparation for storm of capital of emirate, forces were distributed, tasks were defined

- 1.Samarkand group: towards Shahrissyabz, Kitab, Kashkadarya, Karshi and Guzar.
- 2.Katta Kurgan group: was to take possession of the cities of Khatyrchi and Ziyaddin.
3. Chardzhou Group: was to control Chardzhou, the Bukhara-Termez railway line, the border with Afghanistan.

4. the main task fell on the Kagan group of troops: it included the 4th cavalry regiment, 1st eastern Muslim regiment, 7th rifle regiment - this group was to take possession of Old Bukhara.

The 28th armoured train approached Karshy gate of Bukhara (Bukhara-Kagan railway station) and started firing at the city. Only for last 2 days of August 12000 shells were fired on the city. There were planes of "Farman", "Farsel", "Sopvich", "Newpor", "Albatross" brands at Kagan airfield.

For three days the city was subjected to air raids, 1/5 of the city turned into ruins.

Amir Alimkhan left Bukhara on August 31 and headed for Gijduvan through MohiKhosa.

On September 1, Red Army units entered the city. Members of Alimkhan's family, Alimkhan's mother, sister, wife, three sons and many relatives were arrested before they could escape from Bukhara by storm.

Details of atrocities of the Red Army soldiers, robbery and murder are widely covered in scientific historical literature.

Here is the stretched "helping hand" of the defeated proletariat to the oppressed people of Bukhara.

Export of the revolution to the Emirate had huge socio-economic, political and humanitarian consequences. A long senseless fratricidal civil war started inside the country. The society was divided into two warring camps.

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