# INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIOGRAPHY OF ALEXANDER IVANOVICH DOBROSMYSLOV: "TASHKENT IN THE PAST AND PRESENT"

Ergashev Bakhtiyar Ergashevich Doctor of Science Samarkand State University, Professor of the Department of "Historiography and Source Studies" 1baxergashev@gmail.com

## ANNOTATION

In 2012, it was exactly 100 years since the preparation and publication of the book by a prominent scientist, an active member of the Orenburg Department of the Russian Geographical Society and a member of the Orenburg Scientific Archival Commission, A.I. Dobrosmyslov, author of the book "Tashkent in the Past and Present". The book consists of 15 chapters and covers the following issues: About the history of the city before the conquest, historical facts related to the conquest of the city, the organization of administration of the region with the capital in the city of Tashkent, Economic Administration and courts of the indigenous population, city self-government, income and expenses of the city, urban improvement, educational institutions, societies and institutions promoting education, libraries and museums and book trade, press, printing and lithographs, learned societies, scientific institutions, statistical committees and societies promoting the dissemination of useful knowledge, Orthodox churches, churches of heterodox Christian denominations, synagogues and mosques, medical and sanitary part and veterinary supervision, trade and industry, charitable institutions and various kinds of societies, government and public institutions, various events not included in any of the previous chapters.

**Keywords:** Population, self-government, improvement, education, library and museums, book trade and press, printing and lithography, orthodox churches, synagogues and mosques, learned societies, scientific institutions, statistical committees.

## INTRODUCTION

Among the issues covering the history of Tashkent, the question of the state of the veterinary service in the city is extraordinary, although in many historical studies by the authors of that period, issues related to the veterinary service were not a historical topic. Therefore, an interesting, but historically unrelated question stems from the fact that the author of the collected material, Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov, was a veterinarian by specialty in education.

The book, containing more than 500 typewritten and lithographic pages, was published in the second part of the printing house of Osip Alekseevich Portsev, which was opened in their own house on December 13, 1888. This type-lithography was the best in the city at the time the author's book was published. At the beginning of the book, Alexander Ivanovich reports that the Russians first received information about Tashkent from Daniel Gubin, an envoy of Ivan IV in 1534.

### MAIN PART

Following the theme of the collection, where the main thing is to study issues related to the role of the city of Tashkent in the scientific and cultural relations of Uzbekistan, using the example of the book by A.I. Dobrosmyslov, the task is to explore the historical stages passed along the path of the formation of Tashkent, the scientific and cultural center of Turkestan in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century - beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, are analyzed. Based on this book, from the wealth of historical information, I would like to dwell on questions about the irrigation of Tashkent as an integral part of the irrigation of the entire Turkestan region. In chapter 7 of the book, the author, paying attention to the improvement of the city, initially focused on the issue of irrigation. He notes that "the military tasks of that time diverted attention from irrigation, and besides, due to unfamiliarity with the needs of the population, it was looked at as an unnecessary whim: "They need water, well, let them do it for themselves". [1]

It is further noted that that at that time this matter was so unworthy of attention even from the General Government that Urda, the former city citadel supplied with water by the only ditch Gadragan (maybe Katagan) in which the Russian population sheltered at the beginning, was completely without water. Taking these points into account, on June 19, 1877, Kufman approved "temporary rules on irrigation of the Turkestan region". [2]

At the beginning of the book, in the chapter describing the city, it is noted that "water was brought to the city from the Chirchik River through a distance of 20 miles by two large canals, of which in parts already They separate and walk past everyone almost home". [3]

Dobrosmyslov, referring to the temporary provision, actually fully refers to the points of this rule. So, in particular, point No. 4 "Sowing rice in areas where it is prohibited is currently not allowed. The extension of such a restriction to new areas is permitted by the governor in cases where this measure is recognized by the medical department as absolutely necessary from a hygienic point of view to preserve the health of the residents". [4]

Issues related to rice crops after initial acquaintance with the problems of water distribution in the Zeravshan River basin, according to the conclusion of Russian irrigation specialists such as Grigoriev, Zhizhemsky, Sobolev and others, rice before ripening within 100 days consumed three times more irrigation water than cotton or others agricultural crops. Therefore, the regional administration, taking into account the water shortage during the irrigation season, introduces restrictions on rice crops, arguing this as a problem related to public health.

Many makhalla names proceeded from the location and importance of the named canals and ditches. According to research, the territory of Tashkent was equal to an area of 18,325 acres of land and was irrigated by water from the Chirchik River. For example: 12 canals came out of the Bozsuv canal, these are "Karasu (41.5 verst), Salar (43 verst), Hangar (28 verst), Kaykouz (156 verst), Yalangach (146 verst), Gadragan (96 verst), Ivshi (226 verst), Kyngrak (156 verst), Darvazakent (226 verst), Baytyk-Kurgan (56 verst), Uymaut (66 verst), Yuz (46 verst) in total 83 ditches with a length of 173 versts 233 fathoms". [5]

The issues of studying the water supply and irrigation of the city of Tashkent set out in Dobrosmyslov's book have been scientifically confirmed by the factual research of scientists, information that is an important historical source. For example: the issue of water supply to the city of Tashkent was heard in the Turkestan department of the Russian technical society, which was prepared by I.T. Poslavsky, but due to the fact that the society ceased its activities

by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, many scientific irrigators published their achievements in the Turkestan newspaper. Scientific research related to the irrigation of Turkestan can be considered one of the most widely studied aspects of the life of the region during the reign of the General-Government.

An important historical and source study point is information about the author of the book, Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov, who was a direct witness to the scientific and cultural life of Tashkent. According to the Internet, he was born in 1854 and died in 1945. Written as a historian and ethnographer, initially graduating from a theological seminary, then from a veterinary institute, despite the very scanty information about his biography, his work is a useful historical source on the history of the city. Considering the issues of source study of the history of Turkestan in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, all information concerning officials who served in the region was necessarily recorded in the materials of the Office of the Governor-General.

In particular, special service records and forms were filled out. They are reflected in the 33<sup>rd</sup> inventory of the "fund I-1" (Office of the Turkestan General-Government) – the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Preliminary familiarization with the inventory did not help to find the necessary information about the life and work of A.I. Dobrosmyslov. But he is mentioned in the guidebook of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan, "fund 69" (Imperial Russian Geographical Society), in particular, it talks about his letters to Turkestan scholars such as Berg and Fedchenko. But there was no biographical information.

Even in the reports of the Turkestan Department of the Russian Geographical Society for the years 1898-1916 there is no information about A.I. Dobrosmylov. Information about all the Dobrosmyslovs who served in Turkestan was contained in the personal catalogs of the archive. It turned out that three such officials who served in Turkestan bore the surnames of Dobrosmyslov. Thus, under the name of Dobrosmyslov, the Syr-Darya regional administration listed the senior doctor of the Ura-Tubinsky medical infirmary, Sergei Vasilievich. [6]

Also, according to the Office of the head of the Zeravshan district for 1880, there is a case "about issuing benefits to the deacon of the Samarkand Church Alexander Dobrosmyslov for a trip to Tomsk". [7]

He was going to bring his sister from Tomsk after the death of his parents. But these officials and ministers did not fit the nature of their field of activity, although the Samarkand deacon Dobrosmyslov was also Alexander, even attracted by the fact that Dobrosmyslov Alexander Ivanovich graduated from theological seminary. But there is no information about the priest's scientific activities. It should be noted that in Alexander Ivanovich's certificate there is no record that he graduated from theological seminary. But unexpectedly, among the materials of the Office of the Turkestan Governor-General, No. 40 of 1909, there was a file "On the issue of the appointment of the retired State Councilor Dobrosmyslov to the post of Manager of the Veterinary part of the civil department in the Territory". [8]

Paperwork on this issue in the Office of the Turkestan Governor-General begins on June 12 1908. On the first page there is a handwritten report from Dobrosmyslov himself dated June 11, 1908. In his report, Retired State Councilor Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov reports that after serving for 18 years in the Kyrgyz steppes as a veterinary inspector, peasant chief and chairman of the district congress of peasant chiefs, he fell seriously ill.

In his free time, he devoted himself to studying the region in archaeological, historical, economic and ethnographic terms, as a result of which up to 150 typewritten works were published at different times (it is impossible to read the number of works or the number of sheets in the manuscript) - about the Kyrgyz in various scientific journals in the form of separate books and brochures. He asks to be appointed to the position of veterinarian in one of the regions; the letter indicates the names of the three indigenous regions of the region. At the end he reports his home address: Simbirsk. Malo-Kazanskaya street, building. Krasilnikov No. 25. Alexander Ivanovich Dobrosmyslov. [9]

This case with an indirect name turned out to be the most necessary material: I will add that to date no researcher has used this source. Dobrosmyslov attached to the report a certificate from the Turgai regional government for the former peasant chief of the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the Turgai district, the State Councilor. It is reported that at the time the certificate was issued on August 24, 1907, he was 53 years old. Of the hereditary nobles, he had orders for his service. As a veterinarian, he received 1,000 rubles in canteens and 1,000 rubles in salary, a total of 2,000 rubles in year. He had no family or acquired estates.

He was educated at the Kazan Veterinary Institute and on August 18, 1879 he was awarded the degree of veterinarian; a veterinarian diploma was issued No. 744/69 in September 22, 1879. He was a teacher at the school of veterinary paramedics at the Perm Provincial Zemstvo without the right to public service from September 20, 1879 to May 14, 1880. After participating in the elimination of epidemic diseases in the Minsk province, on March 18, 1881, he was appointed to the position of supernumerary veterinarian in this province. By decree of the Governing Senate on April 2, 1885, he was confirmed in the rank of Collegiate Secretary, and since 1886, based on length of service, Titular Advisors.

He was sent to the Voronezh province to take measures against plague in cattle. In 1888 he was appointed Podolsk provincial veterinarian, and in the same year he was promoted to Collegiate Assessor. By order of the Minister of Internal Affairs Gagarin, from 1888-1891 he was on a business trip to the Turgai region for anti-plague measures. In 1900, for his length of service, he was promoted to court councilor. By order of the Minister of Internal Affairs, in addition to his direct duties, he filled the position of head of the veterinary department of the Orenburg province. In 1903 he was promoted to Collegiate Advisor. On behalf of the Turgai Regional Statistical Committee, he compiled the book "Cattle Breeding in the Turgai Region".

Also, on behalf of the Military Governor of the Turgai region, he compiled a brochure "Transit movement of industrial livestock and animal products through the Turgai region". [10] He was elected several times as an honorary magistrate of the region, a member of the regional statistical committee, and several times served as Advisor to the Regional Board. In 1900, on behalf of the regional Statistical Committee, he compiled the book "Materials on the history of Russia T.P." On behalf of the Orenburg Department of the Russian Geographical Society, he prepared the first edition of the book "Turgai Region, Historical Sketch" and on behalf of the Orenburg Scientific Archival Commission, the brochure "Bashkir Rebellion in 1735, 1736 and 1737."

In 1901, he was transferred to the post of Tver provincial veterinarian. Since 1902, he was appointed peasant commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the Turgai district. He headed the congress of peasant leaders. By the highest order of the civil department on July 24, 1907, he was

dismissed upon request and resigned with his uniform. He was a widower; at the time of drawing up his certificate, his son Alexander graduated from Moscow University with a degree in law, and his daughter Larisa is a mathematician at higher courses for women. Daughter Maria also studied at the same courses. [11] The Office of the Turkestan Governor-General, after receiving a response to the requests, issued certificates stating that there were no obstacles to appointment with the signature of the Manager of the Office of the Governor-General, Colonel V.A.Mustafin. [12]

### CONCLUSION

Dobrosmyslov, along with the presentation of historical facts, as he himself admits, collects information about the behind-the-scenes side of city life in the Kaufman era. Therefore, some information about the Governor-General, about the rulers and Managers of the Office of the Governor-General and other facts in the opinion of the author are instructive. Much information about the activities of administrative bodies in Turkestan was obtained from the archives of the Governor General's Office, which the author considered the only well-organized archive. The author spoke with deep gratitude about other officials who provided important information.Despite the fact that A.I. Dobrosmyslov, without a special historical education, being a veterinarian by passion, collected a wealth of material on the history of the city of Tashkent, as a center of culture and science in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> - early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

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