

Policy of The Government of The General Government of Turkistan On Church Construction in Samarkand: Goals and Tasks

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Abstract: This article reveals the historical process of the construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region. The purpose of the study is to determine the social impact of the religious and administrative policy of the Russian Empire by studying this process. The study uses source studies, political analysis and historical approaches. The article studies the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand and the interaction with the local population in this process. The impact of the imperial government's policy on the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand is also analyzed based on archival documents.

Keywords: Orthodox churches, Samarkand, Turkestan Governorate-General, religious policy, archival documents, source studies, political influence, construction process, Russian Empire.

Introduction: The construction of Orthodox churches in the Turkestan region, as part of the religious policy of the Russian Empire, greatly manifested its political and social impact. The construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region formed part of the empire's attitude towards the local population and culture. This article analyzes the process of construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region and how the Russian government managed this process. The main purpose of the study is to study the process of construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand, the role of the governor-general's policy in this process, and the interaction with the local population. The research uses the methods of source study, historical analysis, and political analysis. The article analyzes the construction of churches in the Samarkand region and its political and economic impact based on new sources. [1:32]

METHOD

The governor-general system of the Russian Empire was established at the end of the 19th century to centralize administration in the Turkestan provinces and support regional policy. The Samarkand region was also governed within this system with its own political

and religious organizations. Samarkand, as the central part of the Turkestan Governor-General, became one of the important places that influenced the economic and cultural policy of the Russian Empire. During this period, the political authority of the governor-general in Samarkand and the entire Turkestan region was strong, and he made not only civil, but also religious and administrative decisions. The governors-general, reporting directly to the central authorities of the Russian Empire, implemented various political, religious and cultural policies in the region. Political and economic crises in the Turkestan region required the creation of a new regional governance system. [2:76] In this process, the governors-general tried to create a large administrative structure and network of officials in Samarkand, as well as to take the necessary measures for the effective implementation of the policy of the Russian Empire. The Samarkand region, with its important geostrategic location and social structure, was of special importance for the Russian Empire. [3:44]

The religious policy of the Russian Empire was especially associated with the development of the Orthodox Church. The Russian government placed the Orthodox religion at the center of its religious policy

and saw it as the main tool for strengthening the empire. The construction and development of Orthodox churches became an integral part of Russia's social, political, and economic policy. The construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region, as part of the religious policy of the Russian Empire, brought about many changes in the region. This policy was carried out mainly with the aim of influencing the local population and their religious views. The Russian government took a number of initiatives to build and develop Orthodox churches in Samarkand and the entire Turkestan region. These initiatives, due to their political, economic, and social significance, led to a number of religious and cultural changes in the region. The construction of Orthodox churches was seen as an important tool not only for strengthening religious authority, but also for increasing new religious influences among the local population. The construction and development of Orthodox churches in Samarkand, as well as practices in other parts of the Turkestan region, were efforts to implement the Russian Empire's religious policy in the region. In this process, the Russian government sought to strengthen relations and integration processes with the local population and other religious groups in order to support its imperial policy. [4:80]

The Russian government, in order to strengthen its religious and social influence in the Turkestan regions, paid great attention to the construction of churches. The process of building Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region served general political and religious goals and ensured the strengthening of the Russian Empire. The construction of these churches was directly related to the political decisions of the Governor-General. First of all, the construction process included the selection of a place, approval of the project and the allocation of the necessary funds for construction, as well as the involvement of consultants. In general, the construction of Orthodox churches in the region was not only religious, but also political, as they were considered part of the social and cultural management of the Russian Empire. [5:31]

The Orthodox churches built in Samarkand, their general layout and construction sites, were carried out within the framework of the regional administration system of the Russian Empire. These constructions were important not only for the local population, but also for general political and economic processes. The decrees of the Governor-General served as the main instrument for resolving all important issues related to the construction of churches. [6:55]

Decisions and management documents on the construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region were carried out through documents of the

governor-general. These documents ensured the effective functioning of the regional administration system of the Russian Empire. Archival documents played an important role, in particular, in the allocation of funds for church construction, approval of projects and selection of construction sites. Analysis of archival documents reveals the political and economic aspects of these construction processes. Among the documents are information on the allocation of funds for construction, approval of projects, selection of sites and other political actions. These documents reflect not only the goals and objectives of the construction, but also the political decisions and interactions between officials of that time. The construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand was carried out on the basis of projects supported and approved by the governor-general. Archival documents show the details of the construction process and shed light on the system of political management and decisions of that time. Among them are the funds allocated for the construction of churches, construction sites, consultants and other details. Through these documents, it is possible to conduct a political and economic analysis of the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand. [7:29]

During the construction of Orthodox churches in the Samarkand region, there was also resistance from the local Muslim population. Taking into account the respect of the Muslim population of Samarkand for their religious traditions, culture and religious objects, the Russian government took various measures to overcome this resistance. The Russian Empire, in order to establish an effective administration and regional system, was forced to take strict measures against the resistance of the local Muslim population. [8:99] This includes, in particular, the achievements made through cultural integration and interfaith dialogue. The Russian government, in its policy of effective governance and the elimination of religious opposition, has used all means to prevent the Muslim population of Samarkand from rebelling against leaders and officials. This has certainly become one of the important aspects of Russia's regional policy. [9:49]

The majority of the population felt that the process of building a church contradicted their religious and cultural traditions. At the same time, the Russian government was forced to use various social, political and economic mechanisms to overcome the resistance of the Muslim population of Samarkand and implement its policy. Although this policy of the Russian government affected the faith of the Muslim population, there were groups among them who continued to fight against the construction of the church. However, this resistance did not have its social

and political consequences, because the Russian Empire strengthened its political tools to achieve its goals and strengthened its position at the international level. [11:85]

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The policy of the Governor-General had a direct impact on the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand. The goals set by the Russian government for church construction had their own social and economic significance. The construction of Orthodox churches served to strengthen the regional administration of the Russian Empire not only religiously, but also politically and economically. Churches not only functioned as religious centers, but they also served as an important tool for strengthening the political and social influence of the Russian government in the Samarkand region. The built churches played an important role as religious centers for the local population, and at the same time shaped their economic activities. [12:81] The policy of the Governor-General was implemented through the funds allocated for the construction of Orthodox churches, construction sites and projects. The economic impact of these constructions was not only in line with the economic development of the Samarkand region, but also with the political goals of the Russian Empire. The Orthodox churches built in Samarkand included several factors that corresponded to the social, political and economic goals of the Russian government.

The source-based approach plays an important role in scientific research, since historical events and processes are often fully described only through archival documents and other sources. Archival sources play a significant role in research on the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand, especially in shedding light on the political and religious policy of the Russian Empire in the Turkestan Governorate. Archival documents mainly include official decrees, orders, memoranda, bulletins, and other documents. [13:73] These documents reflect decisions regarding the religious policy of the Russian Empire in the Samarkand region, providing important information about their main goals and the measures taken. The source-based approach aims to analyze the historical significance of these documents and show how they can be used in scholarly work. [14:35] An important step in source research is to compile a complete list of existing documents and identify the key information they contain. Documents related to the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand cover not only the construction process, but also relations with the local population, the distribution of economic resources, and the political influence of the government. Their full analysis requires the identification of important

scholarly sources before embarking on the research.

CONCLUSION

The documents of the Governor-General contain all the main decisions, orders and administrative documents related to the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand. The analysis of these documents is of great importance not only historically, but also in a political, economic and religious context. First, the documents identify the main directions of the Russian Empire's policy in the Samarkand region. The documents of the Governor-General show the decisions taken to implement various political and economic goals. For example, the funds allocated for the construction of Orthodox churches, architectural projects, locations and other relevant issues were aimed at strengthening the regional administration of the Russian Empire. Secondly, the source analysis of the documents shows the resistance of the Muslim population in Samarkand and the measures taken by the Russian government to overcome this resistance. Through the documents, important information can be obtained about the interaction between the population and the authorities in Samarkand, as well as the political and social conflicts in this process. Third, a source analysis of the documents also allows us to study the socio-economic impact of the construction of the church in Samarkand. The funds allocated by the Russian government for the construction of the church show where and how these funds were distributed. A full analysis of this process helps to identify the factors that influenced the economic policy of the Russian Empire and its influence in the region. A source analysis of the documents of the Governor-General is important in collecting historical data on the construction of Orthodox churches in Samarkand and sheds light on how they are used in scientific work. Through this analysis, it is possible to understand more deeply the political, economic and religious goals of the Russian Empire.

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