



The Sources on the History of Intellectual Heritage in Uzbekistan

Ziyayeva Dono Khamidovna 

The Institute of History of The Academy of Sciences of The Republic of Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT

The research analyses the sources relating to intellectual heritage of Uzbekistan in XIX – early XX centuries. There has been given the classification and types of sources, their significance to disclose history of Uzbekistan. There have been involved sources in five categories that were written in eight languages and main libraries, manuscript and archive funds where the sources are stored.

Keyword : *intellectual heritage; Uzbekistan, manuscripts; lithographic works; expeditions; types of sources; sciences; books; articles; researches; funds.*

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menganalisis sumber-sumber yang berkaitan dengan warisan intelektual Uzbekistan di XIX - awal abad XX. Telah diberikan klasifikasi dan jenis sumber, signifikansi mereka untuk mengungkapkan sejarah Uzbekistan. Ada sumber yang terlibat dalam lima kategori yang ditulis dalam delapan bahasa dan perpustakaan utama, manuskrip dan dana arsip di mana sumber-sumber disimpan.

Kata Kunci : *warisan intelektual; Uzbekistan, manuskrip; karya litografi; ekspedisi; jenis sumber; sains; buku; artikel; penelitian; dana.*

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1. Introduction

The role of intellectual potential and heritage is priceless in the development of humanity. In contemporary world in which the XXI century is acknowledged as the era of knowledge and intellectual thought, deep respect and thorough attention to gained experience and intellectual potential that is considered the most valuable wealth providing the foundation of any country's material and spiritual development.

E-mail address: dono61@mail.ru

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Restoring cultural heritage developed by our ancestors, storing them, researching and keeping them as spiritual heritage of present and future generation have been raised to public level. The Decree of the President of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev issued on May 24, 2017 “About the measures of further development of storing manuscripts, the system of researching and propagandizing”¹ defined significant tasks on delving intellectual heritage, storing them for present and future generations.

It is known that in different periods of historical development, particularly, in Renaissance (in IX-XII centuries), intellectual potential of our country grew the highest level in the world influencing global science.

2. Methodology

During this period, world science was enriched with the works and inventions of such outstanding scientists as Muso al-Khwarazmi, Ahmad al-Ferghani, Abu Rayhon Beruni, Ibn Sina and the works of Abu Nasr Farabi and Mahmood Qoshghari. Besides, Islamic culture developed with the works, contributions and achievements of scholars and thinkers such as Imam al-Bukhari, Hakeem at-Termidhi, Burhaniddin Marghinoni, Mahmood az-Zamakhshari, Kaffol Shoshii, Abu Mansoor Motrudi, Iso Muhammad at-Termidhi, Yusuf KhosHojib, Ahmad Yassawi, Abdukholiq Ghijduwani and Najmiddin Kubro.

Later, numerous scholars such as Mirzo Ulughbek, Ali Qushchi, Qozizoda Rumii, thinkers and poets such as Abd al-Rahman Jami, Alisher Nawoi, Zahir ad-Din Babur, Sufism figures such as Bahouddin Naqshbandii, Khodja Ubaydulloh Ahror Walii, painter Kamoliddin Behzod, historians such as Mirkhond, HofizAbru, Abdurazzoq Samarkandi, Ghiosiddin Khondamir who made a noticeable contribution to world science were brought up in the region. The scientific heritage of these scientists became a great contribution to the development of world science and Islamic civilization.

Such a high intellectual potential kept its noteworthy influence on the life of the country in XVI-XIX centuries. The traditional intellectual heritage and knowledge inherited from ancestors kept its significance in social life, knowledge, thinking and life style and continued to serve for the prosperity of the society.

¹ The Decree of the President of Uzbekistan № PK-2995, “Kadimij va Jozma Manbalarni Saklash, Tadkik va Targhib Kilish Tizimini Janada Takomillashtirish Chora-Tadbirlari Toghrisida,” no. issue on May 24, 2017 No. 103 (2017).270 pp.

It should be emphasized that the local works written in previous centuries formed the foundation to the intellectual heritage of Uzbeks in the XIX – early XX centuries. Their analysis gives an opportunity to define how traditional science was in our territory in that period, scientific potential, the level of social view and thought, their specific features and experience, appraise them and use effectively in needed conditions.

Researching wide variety of these sources firstly requires forming their list and classifying in accordance with scientific directions they are related to. For this reason, there has been prepared an indexed bibliography on this issue by a group of scholars in the framework of fundamental project “Intellectual and cultural heritage of Uzbek nation in the XIX – at the beginning of XX centuries” which is being conducted at the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan. Because of researches hard effort in the first year, there has been formed the lists of historical works and scientific researches that are stored in the libraries, archives and manuscript funds in Uzbekistan and abroad. Approximately 30 percent of the bibliography (625) consists of local sources such as manuscripts and lithographic works that were written in previous centuries.²

3. Literature review

In general, there are stored over 100 000 manuscripts in the libraries and manuscript funds of Uzbekistan whose majority are kept at the fund of manuscripts of the Institute of Oriental Studies named after Abu Rayhon Beruni of the Academy of Sciences. Considered irreplaceable treasure, the fund was included in the list of the UNESCO’s World Cultural Heritage in 2000 as a rare and scientific object because of its invaluable sources. The fund of manuscripts of the institute is divided into six departments. There are 26 000 volumes of manuscripts, 39 000 volumes of lithographic works and about 10 000 historical documents written in Arabic, Persian and old Uzbek in the departments. The works created in the XIX – at the beginning of the XX centuries constitute a considerable part among them. They are devoted to different branches of science. Moreover, there are many works that were rewritten in the studied period and some that were translated. According to the analysis of manuscript and lithographic sources, it has been defined that about 40 % of them were rewritten of those written in previous centuries.

² The Sources on the History of Science in Uzbekistan (XIX – the Beginning of XX Centuries) (Tashkent: Yangi Nashr, 2017).

The introduction of lithography in the territory of Uzbekistan in the late XIX century was an important step in publishing process. The works in high demand in educational process and daily life started to be published in large quantities. Since the most demanded manuscripts were published in lithographic publications, more people were able to acquire the information in them. Most of works that were published in lithography publishing houses were textbooks for madrasas and schools, classic and modern literature, religious books, historical and medical works, as well as, manuals for new-method schools.

4. Discussion

While conducting the research, there have been defined variety of sources on almost 30 branches of science such as exact sciences (algebra, geometry), natural sciences (astronomy, astrology, cosmography, geology, geography, mineralogy, geodesy, hydrography, biology, botany, zoology), social sciences and humanity (history, archaeology, oriental studies, ethnology), medical sciences (medicine, pharmacology, veterinary), agriculture (selection, horticulture, sericulture, peasantry, beekeeping, stock breeding), religious studies (Islamic education, history, philosophy and legislation) by researchers.³

There have been defined around 2200 historical sources on the nature, climate, economy, lifestyle of local people and history of Central Asia in eight languages such as Uzbek, Arab, Persian, Russian, English, French, German and Chinese. They consist of manuscripts and lithographic works, scientific and publicistic books, articles, reports and material of scientific expeditions, statistical data and collections of documents.

This approach is remarked with studying intellectual heritage in republic and global level, the necessity of involving both local and foreign sources on researched problem.

Central Asia became the subject of western scholars' study in the XIX – early XX centuries. Particularly, from the middle of the XIX century, Central Asian territory played significant geostrategic role for the foreign policy of the developed countries of Europe such as Germany, France, Great Britain and Russian Empire.

There were organised both military-political and scientific expeditions⁴ to research the area and its population. This led to the growth of world well-known scholars' visit to Central Asia and improvement their research activities.

³ There Have Not Been Fully Included the Sources on Chemistry, Literature, Linguistics, Producing Technology and Economy. It Is Planned to Research the Corresponding Literature and Amplify the Research in Further Investigations.

⁴ Bretschneider, E. Notices of the Medieval Geography and History of Central and Western Asia. SPb., 1876; Bretschneider, E. Medieval Researches from Eastern Asiatic Sources. Fragments towards the Knowledge of the Geography and History of Central and We. Bretschneider, E. Medieval Researches from Eastern Asiatic Sources. Fragments towards the Knowledge of the Geography and History of Central and Western Asia from the 13th to the 17th Century. Vols. I - 2. SPb., 1888; Regel, A. Reisen in Central-Asien. 1876— 1879. Mit. Bd. 25. SPb., 1879; Mit. Bd. 26. SPb., 1880; Regel A. Meine Expedition nach Turfan, 1879. Mit. Bd. 27. SPb., 1881; Barbier, E. L'Asie Centrale et l'Expedition de Khiva // Revue de France, 1873, Août;

5. Results

Consequently, the nature, resources, population and development strategies of the area were studied deeply and comprehensively. Apart from scientific groups like orientalists, geographers, biologists, botanists, geologists, and other specialists, who represented mainly different scientific societies, travellers and diplomatic personnel visiting for various purposes also studied Central Asia with high interest. As a result, there were written hundreds of works on Central Asia and they were published abroad. There are memoirs of foreign diplomatic personnel and travellers, as well as, Chinese sources among them.

It should be stressed that most of the works devoted to the history of Central Asia were written in XIX – at the beginning of the XX centuries. These works can justly be the object of the research as a part of intellectual heritage of Uzbekistan. Because, these researches give valuable information about the history, life style, nature and culture of the area.

Foreign resources published in English, French, German were written by researchers and members of scientific expeditions sent by European scientific societies and travellers. Among them, there are limited number of Chinese sources, memoirs and Chinese yearbooks written by traveller's and ambassadors' from China visiting Central Asia giving information about on economic and political relations, trade exchange between two areas. The quantity of foreign sources is about 300. Some of these sources were published on the pages of Turkestan Collection which was collected in the late XIX – early XX centuries.⁵ Moreover, a number of articles and research results of expeditions were published in the periodicals of Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain and American Geographical society.⁶

⁵ M. H Lessar, "La Russie et l'Angleterre En Asie Centrale. D'après La Brochure de M. Lessar. I-II," *Journal Des Sciences Militaires*, 1985. Lessar, M. H. La Russie et l'Angleterre en Asie Centrale. D'après la brochure de M. Lessar. IV-V // *Journal des Sciences Militaires*. Paris. 1985. http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/turkestan/volume/v501_594/v_others.html; O'Donovan, Edmond. The Merv oasis. Travels and adventures east of the Caspian, during the years 1879-80-81, including five months residence among the Tekkés of Merv. In two volumes. Vol. I. // London. Smith, Elder & Co. 1882. Pp. 502 http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/turkestan/volume/v501_594/v_others.html; Stumm, Hugo. Russia in Central Asia. Historical sketch of Russia's progress in the East up to 1873, and of the incidents which led to the campaign against Khiva, with a description of the military districts of the Caucasus, Orenburg and Turkestan. London. Harrison. (XI, 359p.) http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/turkestan/volume/v501_594/v_others.html; Haymerle, Alois Ritter. Ultima Thule. England und Russland in Central-Asien. Wien. Separatabdruck aus *Streffleur's Oesterr. Milit. Zeitschrift*. 1885.

⁶ H.C Rawlinson, "On Trade Routes between Turkestan and India // *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society* Vol. 13. 1868-1869. Pp 10-23; Notes on Khiva // *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, Vol. 13. 1872-1872. Pp 162-165;," n.d. Trade of Bokhara. Extracts from a Letter of Signor Ferd. Meazza to the Commendator Cristoforo Negri // *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, Vol. 13. 1864-1865. P. 71; Eugene Schuyler. A Month's Journey in Kokand in 1873 // *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, Vol. 13. 1872-1873. Pp. 408-413; *School of Classical Studies in Rome*, Vol. 1(1905), pp. 196-216;

Together with scholars and specialists from Europe, especially from Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia and other countries, new research methods and means appeared in the area. Traditional science branches expanded and developed.

Besides, European scholar eagerly studied traditional scientific achievements, knowledge and experience during their research. Local specialists and amateur scholars participated actively in these researches. For example, Russian scholars involved such local scientists and amateur scholars as Alimkhuja Yunusov, Mirza Hakim, Mirzo Bukhori, Mullo Mirzo Abdurahmon, Akrom Askarov, Mirzo Barat Kosimov and closely collaborated with them.

The representatives of enlightenment movement that expanded sharply in the area who were the intelligent activists of society such as Mahmoodkhodja Behbudi, Abdurauf Fitrat, Munawwarqori Abdurashidkhonov, Abdulla Avloni, Is'hoqkhontura Ibrat accentuated the necessity of rising traditional educational system to the level of world scientific achievements understanding the significance of science and education deeply for the development of the country. They called people to reform the educational system, to learn foreign languages and to enhance knowledge studying abroad. The concepts of the enlighteners about the role of science and education and their approach how to develop them were reflected in their works and articles that were published on the pages of national press. They have been included in the part of the materials of local press.

6. Conclusion

Historical sources described above are kept in libraries, manuscript and archive funds of not only Uzbekistan, but also those locating in foreign countries. Majority of historical sources relating to the research are stored in the funds of the following libraries, archive and manuscript funds:

1. The collection of Oriental Manuscripts and the catalogue of lithographic works of the Institute of the Oriental Studies named after Abu Rayhon Beruni of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan;
2. The Department of "Rare Publications" of the National Library of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Nawoi;

3. The Funds of Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
4. The funds of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg;
5. The Fund of Manuscripts of Bukhara State the Museum-Preservation of Art and Architecture;
6. The Fund of Manuscripts of the Samarkand State United Museum-Preservation of History, Architecture and Art;
7. The Library of the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan;
8. “The Treasure of Sources” of Tashkent Islamic University.

To sum up, the history of intellectual property of Central Asia, particularly Uzbekistan in the XIX – XX centuries is worth studying. The sources written by local, Russian, European and other scholars illustrate valuable and interesting information.

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