

THE STRATEGIC MATERIALS OF RUSSIA ABOUT TRADE OF IRAN BETWEEN 1882 AND 1914

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ABSTRACT: At the end of the 19th century - the beginning of the 20th century, many different visits were made to the Iranian state by the Russian Empire, although they were carried out by different persons and in different ways, but the goal was one, to collect strategic materials about the Iranian state. The information collected by tourists, ambassadors and general governors about the political life, trade relations, and military potential of the Iranian state during 1882-1914 is very valuable. This type of intelligence and secret information collected by the Sankt Petersburg military scientific staff was very important for the Russian state at that time. Russia's interest in Asian countries focused on finding detailed information about Iran in various ways with the intention of selling its products and goods in Asian markets. Only the information that General Kuropatkin obtained during his visit to Tehran was very valuable for the Russian state. The reason for this is that, from the smallest fronts, the general manages to find very important information about the military unit of Iran and its conditions.

KEYWORDS: 1882 – 1914 years, the Russian Empire, Sankt Petersburg, Tehran, Great Britain, General Adrea, Kitadbi, Tabriz, Mr. Peshon, Persian Gulf, Kashan, Izd and Mashhad, The Gulistan Treaty, The Turkmanchoi Treaty, George Curzon, General Kuropatkin.

INTRODUCTION

We know that at this time Russia's influence on the Iranian state was also significant, and in order to prevent this, it was urgent to approach the Iranian state in every way, only through this it was possible to prevent the possible rapprochement of Russia not only to Iran, but also to Asia. Unfortunately, the information collected is very different from one another, and the reason for this is that the official information available in the Iranian state is not accurate and unbiased. When the official documents were compared with the available information by the ambassadors, they encountered a lot of duplication and covered the true information. For this reason, this source served as a very valuable source for study of the history of the Iranian state.

For example, one such targeted report is General Adrea's 1884 report on the state of industry and commerce in Iran. In a report dated February 24, 1880, he presented a report on the state of industry and commerce in Iran, in which he revealed the scope of these activities very broadly. During his several visits, he clearly showed the changes during 1880 and 1884. In 1884, the biggest innovation in Iran was the introduction of the customs system. But on the other hand, complete

anarchy and arbitrariness prevailed in all customs operations, so that there was no accurate report on the actual state of customs operations. When the Persian government became convinced of the need to determine the commercial value of the country, they realized that for this it was first necessary to determine the volume of trade. They managed to choose a person very suitable for such an arduous task, A. Kitadnji, who was once a student in Pisa, well versed in all the subtleties of commercial and administrative affairs, overcame such difficulties that were previously considered insurmountable. Tabriz was the main center of Persian trade. It served as the residence of the Russian, British, French and Turkish consuls. Tabriz was at the starting point of the roads that spread throughout the state, and all the European trading companies had offices there. The main countries trading with Persia are listed below according to the volume of their turnover: England, Russia, Austria-Hungary and Germany. Except for England and Russia, none of these countries have permanent firms in Persia itself, and their affairs are conducted through their agents in Constantinople.

In 1875, the Persian government called from Vienna to Teheran to create a single coinage of Mr. Peshon, who said that of all the samples presented to him, the coins were minted in 18 different provinces, and not only two identical coins, but also no coin corresponding to the normal value could be found. There were no banking offices in Iran, and money transactions were in the hands of a few speculators in Persian service. This was the biggest obstacle to the development of the economy.

George Curzon's report on Persia and Persian affairs also gave a lot of information about trade issues of the Persian state. The Portuguese, the Dutch, the Armenians, and Genoa and Venice were the nations that greatly influenced Persian trade. Russia's influence only began with the Gulistan Treaty of 1813 and the Turkmanchoi Treaty of 1828, and influenced the Persian trade through the railroad from the Black Sea to Baku in North Persia and Khorasan, communication along the Volga, and the merchant fleet. British influence was strong in southern Persia through the Caspian Sea and the Trans-Caspian Railway.

During Kuropatkin's trip, a lot of information about the markets of the Persian state was brought up. For example, despite the great importance of the Azerbaijani market for Russia, almost nothing was done to connect Russia and the Caucasus with the main trade center of Tabriz in the 70 years after Paskevich's troops marched against Tabriz. Although there is Astara - Ardabil road for cargo transportation, for part of the year this road was deep mud and very uncomfortable, and goods were damaged and lost.

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