The study of Central Asia in French historiography in the 19th century

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ABSTRACT
Reforms in Uzbekistan's education system have not bypassed the study of history. Modern approaches at the level of world standards, diversity of opinions - the principles of admissibility of scientific pluralism, adherence to the principles of objectivity, access to primary sources, their introduction into scientific consumption are becoming a priority in historical science. That is, "for the first time in recent years, historical science, which is an integral part of spirituality, began to perform its legal function - to serve the identity of the people" [1].

Key words: french researches, Central Asia, history, hermeneutics, onomastics, semantics and content analysis, toponymy, anthroponymy, ethnonymy, zoonymy.

Introduction
Among the specialties of history a special place belongs to the direction of "historiography and source study", which has a special impact on ensuring the sustainable development of historical science. In the modern system of science and education, the development of the basics of foreign historiography is also an urgent task.

As a result, there is a growing need for the study and in-depth analysis of foreign historiography. It is clear that many foreign studies conducted in English, French, German, Spanish and other languages in different parts of the world contain important information on the history of Uzbekistan, new views, scientific conclusions and different approaches. Because, even if foreign historiography had not been sufficiently studied or studied in Soviet times, it was studied from the perspective of communist ideology in the form of "exposing falsifications", which now challenges historians to study foreign historiography objectively and comprehensively.

Main body
The fact that this study was conducted in different foreign languages and focused on issues from different periods of Uzbekistan's history requires research on a problematic and specialised basis (within certain languages). As a result, there will be an opportunity to study works in foreign languages on a scientific basis free from objective ideological and ideological pressure, which will strengthen the foundations of our national statehood and increase the need to enrich it with new information. This means "...to create a true history of the Uzbek people, to define its place and role in the world community at various stages of development, to return to the spiritual and moral, civilizational foundations and rich culture of the nation, to restore ancient traditions through the popularization and dissemination of historical knowledge. The science of historiography is responsible for being at the forefront of these important social processes. Because by its very nature it should be the barometer of a complex historical-scientific organism" [2].

Scientific historiography raises a number of topical issues, including the study of Uzbekistan in the historiography of individual countries and the study of European
historiography. It should be noted that the general and regional aspects of Uzbekistan's history in these studies are not limited to the analysis of various problematic, thematic and chronological perspectives, directions and periods. Foreign historical sources, based on a high level of knowledge, studied with an in-depth analytical approach, should be brought in to examine and analyse the research. This approach creates a holistic picture of a particular problem in the history of Uzbekistan.

Today our country has made many achievements in the field of foreign historiography, scientific research of historical and modern periods on the example of the English, American, British, Korean and German historiography. In these studies, features of foreign historiography are interpreted differently by contemporary local scholars, each deserving their own worldview and recognition. As a result, an entirely new theoretical and methodological basis began to emerge in foreign historiography, and a number of articles on the tasks and priorities of historical thinking have been published in scientific periodicals. These articles reflect the general state of the scientific and historical sphere in our country, as well as the main tasks facing the historical science at the new stage of Uzbekistan's independent development.

However, the fact that French historiography has been ignored in a certain way suggests that there are some problems in its study. Particularly complex and problematic aspects of the study and analysis of French historiography can be seen in the following:

Firstly, to familiarise yourself with the sources and to master the writing at the necessary level for in-depth scientific analysis. Because French is one of the hardest European languages to master. To analyse a source is not limited to its literal translation, but to become familiar with the social and economic life of the period in which the source was written, taking into account space and time. At the same time, it is necessary to conduct a comparative study of the sources, to analyse the data contained in them from the perspective of source studies and textology. Research is also required to study the sources reflecting historical events, depending on who created them, under what circumstances and on the basis of what information;

Secondly, it is necessary to analyse the author's academic level, specialisation, worldview, participation in various scientific societies, the main purpose of the research and other similar subjective factors;

Thirdly, determine the results of the research, examine the final conclusions, analyse the scientific relevance of the research and its place in society. Find answers to questions about what it can be used for in the future. Examine the views of different authors on a particular event and phenomenon, to have a thorough knowledge of that historical event, so as to be able to focus on the best option among them;

Fourth, to study the activities of different schools of thought and learned societies and the methodology of research. Be able to identify anticipated interests when conducting research. Focus on the activities and methodology of these academic schools and centres to identify their similarities and differences;

Fifth, foreign historians, in general, should have the skills to work in sync with the demands and spirit of the times to study the activities of Orientalists.

French Orientalism occupies a special place in world Orientalism. It is well known that Germany is the second most important centre of Orientalism, while France is rightly ranked first. French Orientalism was not limited to classical Orientalism, but was conducted in combination with applied Orientalism [4], i.e. a large influx of researchers visited the East directly and studied it in detail. As a result, the development of scientific orientalism led to the development
of disciplines such as linguistics, ethnography, archaeology, palaeography, numismatics and cultural studies. They have unique research methods and orientations, and not all areas of Central Asia have been left untouched.

Because French historiography is so vast (from antiquity to the present day), we have limited scope to study the socio-political views of contemporary historians and scholars of the time on each event. They can be the basis for a separate object of study and scholarly research by period and direction. According to the well-known scholar and specialist in foreign historiography D. Ziyaeva, "it is advisable to analyse foreign historiography not on the basis of each work or study, but on the basis of their main conclusions, common and contradictory views, identification, sources" [5] not with the description of events, but with their features.

There is ample scope for overcoming the above-mentioned problems in the study of French historiography in our country. On this basis, the following solutions can be proposed.

Francophone studies on the history of the Central Asian region are rich in factual and analytical material, much of which has not yet been studied or researched. There are many sources and periodicals in our country's libraries that are little known to the scholarly community.

If we consider the number of travelers and researchers who visited Central Asia only at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries, it is estimated that there were about 161 [6]. Although not all of them carried out scientific research, in most cases details of their travels were also published in the form of memoirs or memoirs. If we analyse the composition of these 161 explorers and tourists, 21 of them were engaged in scientific research, 23 in social sciences, 25 in natural sciences, 2 in the military and 1 in espionage.

Moreover, various branches and branches of science and education in the Central Asian region were the subject of French studies in natural sciences such as geology, mineralogy, hydrography, entomology, ornithology, topography; social sciences such as ethnography, ethnology, geography, toponymy, chronology, anthropology, history, diplomacy, theology, cultural studies, linguistics; agricultural fields such as irrigation, silk production, cotton growing were extensively studied.

At the same time, it is appropriate to analyse the work, level and methods of research of these explorers and tourists. The traveller may have been an amateur, an amateur, or simply a tourist accompanying an expedition of scientists. Some travellers also visited our region at their own expense and studied it. For example, H. Moser (Moser, Henry (1844–1923).

An explorer is a scientist with in-depth knowledge of a particular field of science, an academic degree, a researcher, a specialist of a particular specialisation. Most French explorers were simultaneously members of several scientific societies, such as the Paris Geographical Society, the Anthropological Society, and the Ethnographic Society, and carried out research on special expeditions funded by various ministries. Such researchers, as mature scholars, continued their scientific research even in local laboratories, various scientific societies, or museums located in Turkestan province. They can also be called researchers because their work corresponds to real scientific research. For example, Charles-Eugène Ujfalvy de Mező-Kövesd, 1842–1904) anthropologically studied more than 100 bowls of the main structure in the Tashkent Museum, and comparative tables on their structure were compiled by Russian specialists.

Even less than 20 years after the Russian occupation of Turkestan, the following opinion was published in Russian periodicals: “Although Russian Turkestan (i.e. Turkestan collapsed by Russian) has only recently been conquered, much has been written about it. Obviously, if ever
Europe was so interested in any country. Several hundred authors have written about this country over a period of 15-20 years. More than 5,000 works and newspaper articles have been written about this country. Not only Russians, but also the English, French, Germans, Dutch, Swedes, and other nations of the civilised world are interested in it” [8]. Obviously, with the large number and number of studies, it is appropriate to study their data on the basis of comparative analysis.

Thus, these researchers who visited our region in the late 19th-early 20th centuries did make a significant contribution to re-discovering Turkestan for Europe. Today rare editions and periodicals preserved in our local libraries are of great importance for foreign historiography and serve as a source base. They provide a convenient opportunity to study the data on the basis of comparative analysis.

"Turkestanskiy sbornik" (The Turkestan collection), consisting of 594 volumes, collected by the bibliographer V.I. Medzhov from 1867 to 1917, is also a valuable source for French historiography. A number of texts from this collection are among the main sources of information about this period [9]. The scholarly significance of the Turkestan Collection lies in the fact that the “Revue des deux Monde”, “Revue de France”, “Revue contemporaine”, “Revue de Geographie”, “Bulletin de la Société de Geographie”, “Annales des voyages”, “Le correspondant”, “Le Nord”, scientific articles published in newspapers and magazines, as well as original texts of reports of various expeditions are posted on its pages ”[10].

In addition, detailed information about the activities of tourists and explorers on scientific expeditions to Turkestan was regularly published by Russian scientists in the newspaper “Turkestanskie Vedomosti” [11] from 1870 to 1917 [12].

The fonds of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan [13] also contain information about the scientific expeditions or trips of these French explorers to Turkestan, the routes of travel, the attitude of local authorities to them [14].

In short, the sources of French historiography can be divided into several groups:

The first of these are major works or monographs, which are also of great importance. Scholarly works are the product of the history of science and scientific research. It contains in-depth basic research, sound conclusions and new ideas. It will undoubtedly lead to new scientific views and ideas in the history of our region and Uzbekistan as a whole. The sources have been brought into scholarly circulation.

They were published in French’s famous publishers such as “Hachette et C-ie”, “Ernest Leroux”, “Armand Colin & Cie”, “E. Plon, Nourrit et CO” “Societe d'edition scientifique”. The progress and results of the research, the scientific findings and the scientific conclusions are presented in a comprehensive way in the papers. The reader familiar with the work will have the necessary insight into the research conducted and the specific field of study. The purpose, plan, participants, itinerary, route taken, impressions of the trip, and scientific findings are all reflected. In addition to these resources, maps, photographs, engravings and tables created during the research are also included. In this respect, works and monographs are some of the most valuable sources. These include monographs, special textbooks and study guides.

The second type of texts are scientific and popular science articles, which are mostly small in size. These articles focus on a particular area of scientific research, studies divided into several fields (ethnography, history, mineralogy, geology, flora and fauna), published in small volumes in the largest and most famous periodicals of the period. These included “Revue des deux Monde”, “La Gazette géographique”, “Exploration”, “Revue du monde catholique”, “Revue de France”, “Revue des sciences naturelles appliquées”, “Revue française de
l’étranger”. It has also been published in the specialist publications of various scientific societies, such as the “Bulletin de la Société de Géograhpie de Lion”, “Bulletin de la réunion des officiers”, “Bulletin de la Société de Géographie de Paris”, “Annales agronomiques”. The advantage of these texts as a source is that they were presented to the scientific news by the scientific and general public before the research was fully completed. In these articles, European explorers and tourists reflected on the peculiar exoticism of the oriental world, discovering new facets of the oriental world that were different from their imagination. At the end of the study, when the papers were created from this collection of articles, these specific elementary features in the articles, popular science ideas understood by the public, were removed and purely scientific views were reflected in the papers.

The third type of texts are scientific reports sent by the expedition leaders to the organisers of the expedition, i.e. the ministries of education, finance, geography and anthropology. The fact that such documents were discussed at meetings of the sponsoring scientific societies and their original texts were published in scientific journals determines its scientific value as a source. It provides a detailed description of the direction of the expedition and other work undertaken, as well as extensive information, even simple day-to-day information.

Another type of source is the work of French Orientalists, based on source studies. They conducted their research based on in-depth study, analysis and translation using sources in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Chinese, Sanskrit and Hebrew while studying a particular period or historical issue. This type of research was also passive in nature because it was based on source studies and differed from travel-based research. However, the value of these studies is overestimated from the point of view of a scholarly orientalist, mainly because they relate to primary sources.

It should be noted that among these sources are French translations of works and scientific articles produced by some Russian scholars and researchers. This is also one of the manifestations of research unique for its time, one of the attempts to provide the scientific community with as many source bases as possible. This is due to the fact that, for Europeans who do not speak Russian, the scientific sources have been translated into French. There are some difficulties in the translation process, which requires time and language skills. The translation of Russian sources into French served as the basis for the subsequent translation of this source into other pan-European languages such as English and German. So it is no exaggeration to say that this is also one way of broadening the resource base of the scholarly community. In this way, Orientalists have developed a new methodology for studying the East. From the above considerations, we can conclude that the need for knowledge about the East in the European world and the growing demand for it has led to an expansion of the type of intellectual heritage.

It is important to note that the above-mentioned studies, which provide extensive information on the history of Turkestan, have not been studied and analysed in depth in French historiography and source studies in our country. Adequate use of resources, conditions of free thinking and creativity in the current years of independence, which give the opportunity to study various foreign publications, open wide opportunities for large-scale research in foreign historiography and source study.

A further priority is the development of “new perspectives” in the development of the study of French historiography. It is not possible to study historiographical studies according to a
single scheme in different periods and on different topics. The reason is that an approach appropriate to one topic may not cover another. A historian should always rely on new approaches, methods and creativity in covering the historiography of a particular subject, period.

Only in this way can new concepts, views and scholarly schools of historiography be formed. Such perceptions are formed on the basis of regular self-study, development of knowledge, skills and abilities as a specialist. New ideas are developed on the basis of processing and analysing many ideas. The more historical research is introduced to the researcher, the more he/she learns the methods of scholars, the more his/her qualifications increase, the more the bank of ideas is enriched. Their assimilation-dissimilation process results in new ideas, original approaches that are unique, and a particular methodology.

The right choice of different methods of historiography and source study in examining and analysing the material reflected in the research results is also effective in enriching scientific knowledge. Among them are methods such as "Hermeneutics", "Onomastics", "Semantics" and "Content Analysis".

"Hermeneutics" (Greek - interpretation, interpreting) means the art of interpretation, the art of interpreting. The art of interpretation is the theory of understanding and interpreting texts. Based on the theory of interpreting artistic texts, it emerged as one of the trends of the 20th century philosophy [17].

This is one of the most convenient research methods for foreign historiographical analysis. When using the method of hermeneutics in the study of historical documents, the following factors should be taken into account: the author's cultural status, education, social status, education, as well as with the authorities at the time. Hermeneutics is used as a text not only in the study and interpretation of manuscripts, but also of works of art, historical events and other materials suitable for understanding.

On the other hand, the process of understanding means basic action within a hermeneutic framework. On the one hand, studying a text according to the period and genre in which it was created. On the other hand, the focus is on the spiritual life of the author of the text and the author's spiritual life is part of the historical period.

Furthermore, hermeneutics is the teaching of the principles of interpretation. It comes in the following types:

- **In grammatical interpretation**, the text is understood in the context of the "language of common expressions".
- **In historical interpretation** it is studied on the basis of the "most basic impressions" of the period.
- **In individual interpretation**, the data is analysed on the basis of the speaker's individual interpretations.

Studying and analysing texts written in foreign languages presents certain difficulties to the reader. This interpretation of historical documents and research findings is very appropriate, based on which research is explored in depth on the basis of grammatical, historical and individual interpretations. This strengthens the existing "hermeneutic triangle" - the relationship between the author of the text, the text itself and the reader. Proximity between author and reader plays an important role in this. For example, if the author is too far away from the reader, the text will not be clear until the last attempt at hermeneutics. However, on the contrary, the complete homogeneity of the author and the reader, the very similarity of thinking, prevents the existence of the secret, mysterious thoughts and specific content in the text and...
leaves no room for interpretation of the text.

This is precisely the situation that can be observed when looking at French sources. The French researcher recorded what he saw and knew without understanding our local religion and customs. When translating and analysing it, it must be studied taking into account that the author belongs to a different religion and mentality and does not know the local customs and traditions. Only then will we be able to draw an objective conclusion. Mant and reader in the author-text-reader triangle belong to the same region, only in which the author is a foreign researcher. Hermeneutic analysis is a method that teaches us to analyse and understand texts on this broad basis.

Onomastics is a branch of science that studies the types and origins of all known horses [17]. It has such branches as Toponymy (known names of geographical objects), Anthroponymy (known names of people), Ethnonymy (names of peoples and tribes), Zoonymy (names and nicknames of animals). It can be used when studying the works of foreign researchers when analysing information about the naming or misspelling of certain geographical names or the names of animals, birds occurring in various landforms. Remembering and recording names of people from unknown countries has also been a problem for foreign researchers. This is because in some cases their works are misspelled.

Content analysis is a more serious method that is used to identify social facts and trends reflected in documents [15].

When we choose it as a research method, it can be used to determine the quality and quantity of certain issues in French studies. Its peculiarity is that it examines documents in a social context. Because of this feature, it is more convenient and effective to use it in the social field than in other branches of science and education. It is recommended to use it in the analysis of periodicals, which serve as a starting point for French historiography and source studies. In this case, the repetition of a theme in the pages of publications allows us to trace the frequency of speed. This will help to determine which idea dominated the pages of the periodicals at the time and which was the main topic for writers, scholars and researchers in the field.

In addition, the method of contextual analysis can be used to analyse the content of works in a similar way. For this purpose, specific content analysis tables are developed and category-based analyses are carried out. "Word" can be chosen for the unit of analysis (e.g. Central Asia, Turkestan) or "speech" for the contextual unit (e.g. English-Russian competition, Central Asian culture). Accordingly, the number of texts or the chronological period (e.g. 100 articles in periodicals or publications over 5 years) is determined. But this is a very complex task and requires careful research on the part of the researcher. Therefore, if the volume of selected material is very large, other features of interest to the researcher can be made on the basis of modern computer technology on the basis of comparison.

At the same time, new theoretical and methodological approaches do not mean abandoning the traditional research experience accumulated in the field of historiography. Modern researchers must effectively use the rich and useful experience of their predecessors. "The modern model of Uzbekistan's historiography" is, in a sense, based on global methodological thinking, and undoubtedly, historians and historians use this positive experience in their research practice [16].

One of the peculiarities of the field of historiography and source studies is that the study and research of the history of each nation, state by foreign representatives, scholars, researchers and tourists leads to a different view on this or that event, the formation of a new worldview.
enables new facets to be discovered.

Many such features can also be observed in French historiography. New aspects and aspects not noticed by local scholars and historians are quickly picked up by people of other nationalities with unique mentalities and beliefs. Tourists with a completely different outlook have contributed to the enrichment of the world's intellectual heritage, especially by promoting new ideas in observation, analysis of reality and its consequences.

General and particular aspects of French historiography should be recognised. For example, one of its peculiarities is the study of the various periods of Uzbekistan, as well as of the entire Central Asian region from ancient times to the present day. This situation is rarely felt in other areas of foreign historiography, such as American-British and German historiography. This is an indicator of the importance of French historiography in the system of foreign historiography.

Another aspect is that French historiography studies Uzbekistan not as a separate region, but as an integral part of the Central Asian region. Studies also frequently make comparisons of this or that issue with other republics in the region. It should be noted that, in view of the strategic importance of Uzbekistan among the Central Asian States, European researchers have studied our history and culture in greater depth.

A common feature of foreign historiography is that it shows that truth is evaluated according to a single criterion in all languages. The commonality in foreign historiography is not only in scientific achievements, but also in shortcomings. These shortcomings, local peculiarities, ignorance of conditions, and unwarranted generalisation of a limited set of data on a regional scale have led to misconceptions among their authors.

Conclusion

Consequently, French historiography has its advantages and disadvantages. Whereas the successes are the result of an attempt to objectively reconstruct scientific and historical truth, to state it openly, to assess it objectively, to rely on reliable sources, to observe it in detail, the shortcomings are the result of limited knowledge and resources, ignorance of the real situation, urgency and superficial considerations. Reasonable use of these achievements, proving the validity of shortcomings is important and necessary in order to restore historical truth. This, in turn, requires extensive scientific cooperation and a mutual exchange of views.

In conclusion, studying the coverage of the history of Uzbekistan in French historiography is one of the most pressing issues enriching the foundations of foreign historiography. There are plenty of resources and opportunities for this, but they must be used correctly and wisely. In doing so, it is advisable to study, translate and introduce sources into scholarly circulation and to reflect new views based on them in contemporary textbooks and teaching aids. In addition to the task of conducting modern research and development, this also has positive prospects, such as dissemination to the general public.
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