

Economic conditions of Tehran villages at Naseri age

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Abstract: At Naseri age lands were managed by king, lordships, debt or farmers, and the ownership of lands was the authority of government or one person individually or several person. Ownership of some lands was indeterminate. At the last of Ghajar age appropriative lands converted to individual lands. At this age employee's salary, local cost and salary of garrison persons were prepared by the taxes that province governor took from people. Irrigation of lands was done by drilling connected well in an imitation of European. In this work we discussed that by all reforms in agriculture and so on, was there any improvement in cultural, agricultural and other conditions? And what was the reason?

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1. Introduction

At all human thinking history, even before existence of the fertility Goddess, at the age of agriculture development, the earth was considered as a mother. Then because of cultivation and agriculture Goddess was named "Mother Earth". Primitive human and ancient religions have been thinking about earth as a kind mother who embrace universe kindly. This Mother Earth was different in different beliefs systems.

In ancient religion there were icons of fertility and creation Goddesses which were made of soil, clay and rocks, and were kept at alters. Mother Goddess "Mother Earth" had different names in different religions. It was "Inanna" in ancient Sumer, "Ishtar" in Babel, "Astarte" in Canaan, "Eazis" in Egypt, "Afrodeet" in Greece and "Venus" in Rome. In India different accept of blessing and annihilation was named different; "Provati", "Cally" Shiva entourage and "Lakeshmi" Vishno spouse.

Primitive Mother or Goddess Mother was one of three Goddess mothers of Aryan ancient age [1].

In mythological beliefs Earth Mother was married to Sky Father and the products of this marriage were solids, plant and human.

Female Goddess or Earth Mother "primitive Martha" was supposed to be with male goddess "Diaos Pitaar"[19].

In ancient beliefs earth and sky are world's parents; in fact it is based on universe creation beliefs that in it our world and its entire resident are the result of the sexual intercourse of a earth mother and a sky father [15].

This introduction was the expression of the earth importance from ancient ages till now. The earth always played a valuable role in human livings. Building a house is a reach for relaxation and

protection against outside fanfare and cultivation and agriculture is for human food.

Earth was a land for human society from ancient ages but then men avoided bonded society and made it to different fragment for his benefits; so anybody get a piece of earth based on his money and some people got much more lands and some other people couldn't get anything of it and they were only workers for those wealthy owners. Some other people had small lands but the cost and taxes was more than their earning like the Kelile and Demne saying "even if the Kohl spend is little by little it will end someday"[16], so they left their small lands for migration to big cities to earn money without trouble there.

The authors considered the ownership system, Tehran villages division, tax system, agricultural conditions and famine in villages.

2. Ownership system at Naseri age

Ownership of lands was as below at Naseri age:

1. King lands: the lands that was at the ownership of king and were called pure lands.
2. Lordship lands: the lands that was at the ownership of lord lands.
3. Debt lands: lands such as mosque and religious institutions which was managed by clergies.
4. Farmer lands: the lands which was at the ownership of suppliers [10].

Based on above division villages were divided in several categories such as below:

1. Six tone villages
2. Yeoman villages
3. Royal villages
4. Mixed villages
5. Indeterminate villages
6. Pure villages

Now we have to investigate Tehran vicinity villages were which one of above mentioned type and what ownership they had [3].

3. Tehran villages' division

- 1) Pure villages: the villages that their ownership was for government and their decisions and rent state was at the authorities of summary office. These villages were: Rey, Varamin, Gherech Hesaar, Jafarabaad, Hashem abaad, Aliabaad.
- 2) Six tone villages: It means a village that whole ownership of it was for one person. Including: Shemiranaat region, Ghazvin gate gardens of Haaj mirza Aghassi, Abbasaabad lands of Haaji Mollah Abotorab Vaez Ghazvini, Abdolazim land of Haaji Mohammad Hosein Tehrani, Tajrish of Haaji Lotfali khan. The ownership of these lands might goes to other people later. Lavasaanat region was one of these lands that owner of it was Haaji Mirza Mohammad Lavasani and its water was provided from Jajrood river. Sorkhe Hesar owner was Mahmood Khaan Kord. Yaaftabaad owner was Haaji Mirza Aghassi and its water was provided from Karaj River. Yosefabaad owner was Agha Bahram, Abbasabaad owner was Haaj Seyyed Ali Motevalli and its water was provided from Siahaab. At the 1301H.Gh these region got wiring and light installation. Jafarabbad was the east part of Abbasabaad and Gholhak owner was Mirza Hosein who bought it 8000 Rials.
- 3) Yeoman villages: the villages that several people own them such as lands behind Dolaab gates that one of its owners was Haaji Mohammad Hossein Tehrani and other owners name didn't mentioned [3].
- 4) Indeterminate villages: ownership of these lands was indeterminate and it was not obvious whose land are these. Some of villages around Tehran are in this category and their owners are indeterminate. Zargande region was one of the Gholhak lands and it was devoted to Abdolazim. Some of the lands was bought such as Dolat gate land and Shemiran gate land that was bought by Mirzaa nabi khan, later Zello sultan wanted these land too [4].

Changes and evolutions of devoted lands at Naseri age was less than changes of pure lands. At Nader age changing of devoted lands to personal lands and this was seen at the last ages of Ghajaar too.

Many of villages exit the supervision of central government in the form of fief, in some case fief was from personal land or pure land and fief owner might own it or not. At Naseri age some of lands which was others land was sold to other people such as Kaamraney which was sold to Karmraan Mirza thierd

Naseredin Shaah child and war minister- he made Amirye building of his own too- and he gave Monerye land to his mother. He also bought a garden at the Fisherabbad region that its name was based on his Austrian gardener name. Shemiranaat region was given to Foroghossaltane. Yosefabbad was given to Seyfolmolk the 48th son of Fath Ali Shaah, later a hospital was made at this region.

4. Tax system

Country tax treasury was under the presidency of Moeero Almamalek and Aminolsoltan. Province governor was responsible to get taxes and pay them local costs and get the salary of people, who were responsible to pay the taxes of their salary. Any province governor had an instruction before the New Year and he would gather all taxes based on it. Local cost, salary of garrison persons, cost for sex months of Sarakhs garrison, salary of resident countries, central works salary _which should have been paid by local governor_ was calculated and mentioned at that instruction. Treasury works was given to Aminolsoltan, the treasure ministry. Province governors and court officer account would have been report to king and his approval was as the treasury approval [17]. As Malkom speech: "tax collection way and justice performance way at financial and judicial system of the country was under the presidency of king". Always there were quarrels between local governor, chiefs, villagers and connectors. People who were paying their taxes were a minority. Anybody who has been sent to get tax would have been farmers obedient and exchange of bribery and tips was so common. In some areas tax officers would asked for more tax than regular tax for their selves.

Based n Virning speech, landlords were masters who peasants were their farmers. Farmers had to pay one out of five of product as tax. Malkom wrote "based on general rules tax should have been paid by cash and product with the same amount, but practically the real ratio was different. Anybody had to pay taxes, and these taxes were for military Purpose or other costs" [7].

At Naseri age in addition to regular taxes, farmers and landlords, mostly farmers, should have paid Siorsat or food preparation. The officers who demand Siorsat were those who were responsible for guiding foreign people through villages and they were called hostess beside there was some officers from royal who was responsible for demanding Siorsat.

They forced people to pay Siorsat of their store. Morye wrote "farmers didn't complain about suppression and injustice, because they wouldnt get any answer beside they would have got corporal

punishment". Tax instruction and management of it at the Ghajjar age could have summarized in some words: decline, cruelty, insecurity and imprudence [7].

One of the good plans at Naseri age which was done at Tehran by Amir Kabir was the separation of tax demand of governor, so the government or any ministry couldn't have any unjustifiable affect on taxes. The tax responsibility and calculation affairs were only for tax officer of any province. At tax system, renewal of fallen land price and determination of their taxes had a specific time. Main sources of government were: land taxes, pure and biographic customs, beside domestic animals, water wells and aqueducts had their independent taxes. In villages poll taxes was for any family. Land taxes were 20 percent of its earning. These rules were from the Fath Ali Shaah, but they were not fixed. In some province the tax was 30 percent of the earnings. Taxes were in two sections: cash and material. Material taxes were consisting of: wheat, barley, rice, silk, straw, pea and so on. Cereal was for soldiers ration and straw was for governor horses' fodder. Anywhere poll taxes were common, any man should have paid 4 Rials and any woman or child should have paid 2.25 Rials. Domestic animal taxes were as belowe: any sheep 0.75 Rials and any cow or donkey 10 Rials. Pure paid of Tehran and its vicinity to treasure was 12200 Toman [1].

5. Agricultural conditions

About plantation of agricultural products the plantation and irrigation of lands near Tehran should be explained. Some of the lands and gardens around Tehran at Naseri age_ apart from those which was irrigated by Karaj and Jajrood rivers_ were irrigated by aqueducts. At Naseri age they used European experiences, so they dogged some wells and connected them under the earth and after passing some distance the water would came on earth and was used in villages.

In all Tehran plain there were many of these aqueducts. Because of construction of firm dams at Alborz domain at north of Tehran, these regions was covered with agricultural products [14].

At Naseri age agricultural product got multiplied and they planted some new market products such as cotton and tobacco instead of main products .Gradually individual ownership was common instead of several and family ownership and some major landlords got wide lands. Development of agriculture was dependent on production factors: working, land, money, land trade deal, sufficient rain. These were good at most regions so many region could have been planted and it brings about two new conditions. First the transportation got developed so

the cost of delivering product to markets reduced and second farmers could have saved their lands of landlords to buy those [12].

Development of royal lands and major governors and also development of devotions was the first reasons of agriculture stagnation and degradation at this country. Farmers didn't show any interest to improve their agricultural conditions or increase their product. Devotions got developed which their earning should have given to mosques and clergies. Many people devoted their estate provided if it's earning would goes to their heir and it become a source of income for their heirs [2].

Irrigation systems especially aqueducts and agriculture was ruined due to inattention of governors and landlords. Production of a finite amount of food needed more lands and works; it means an evolution against what our researchers are saying.

Destruction of irrigation system and remaining of same production techniques and the changes of agricultural tools at this age caused the need to more land and work for the finite amount of production [6].

Consul Dikson wrote at his book: "as more attention was for production of cotton and opium, the food offer reduced and the prices increased. It seemed bread shortage was serious because government prohibited the export of cereal from south regions." [10]

At Naseri age most of dealers was actually landlords too. Most of them had more than 10000 Toman. The Arozmanian brothers were some of major wealthy dealers who had most of Tehran export [11].

Villages around Tehran supplied some of their needs from Tehran. The main dealers at Naseri age were Tomanian brothers, Haaj LotfAli, Etehadie, Haaji Bagher Malekotojaar and so on.

At the 1275 H.GH appearance of new passion at Tehran such as famine, plague, and cholera and so on caused economical stagnation and agricultural difficulties and both of them simultaneously had deep effects on agriculture. In addition, other factors as below had a major effect on economic disaster at Naseri age:

1. Dropping behind as economical and social point of view and their effect at nutrition, education, communication and hygiene.
2. Absolute lack of public hygiene facilities
3. Inattention of governors and authorities, deterioration of government
4. Use of contaminant water for agriculture
5. Religious washing of corpses [12]

6. Villages around Tehran

Based on Austrian Crise the villages around Tehran were about 144000 m². The largest and the most massive were at west south and east north of Tehran. There was not any house in Tehran without yard and any yard without garden. The land of Tehran and vicinity of it was very appropriate for growing of buttonwood, it grows rapidly and beautifully in these regions. Buttonwoods of Tajrish villages are the most important samples of this tree in the world. Outside the City there were wide gardens which were mostly belong to king because those were build by government such as Lalezaar garden, Negarestan, Ghajar palace, or some else which was at the ownership of common people at first but gradually goes to governors by passing time. Some of these gardens were NabiKhan Garden, Davoodie and leelkhani Nezamye, Khanbabakhan Garden which is one of the most beautiful region around Tehran. Unfortunately they didn't pay attention to some part of it and some of its buttonwoods got cut for timber preparation. Kann Garden and Dolatabad garden had very unique trees.

7. Famine at villages

Famine at Tehran reached a critical point. Lack of transportation devices, made the food import impossible. The price of wheat at Tehran went to 10 or 40 Toman from 2 Toman per a definite amount. Even at the crucial time of famine the governors and embassy representatives couldn't supply bread. Demonstration of hungry people started and that government was looking for any solution. At the 1278 H. Gh due to famine economic and trading activity at Tehran got impaired and Tehran got empty and fundamental change appeared at economic especially at agriculture. These changes were the amount of agricultural product before and after the famine, but the famine didn't had that much effects of city appearance. At ruined villages skulls and bones were anywhere. Famine caused the increase of the ratio of mature men to child. The number of a family members was 5 or more before famine and 4 after the famine. Even Firoozkooch Village got the famine at that age [2].

People at the ages of great famine at Tehran mostly thought of Mirza Essa the Mirza Mossa son the Tehran ministry as a person who os responsible for the famine and they asked him to reduce bread price and save people. Kind ordered to open all wheat stores and reduce the bread price in a way that it donor goes up again.

At the Naseri age, after the famine the prices went up. The weight currency was Man which was 5 pond or 3 kg. the price of product at Tehran was as below: 1Man bread 10 Shaahi, 100Man barley

4Toman, 1Man rice 18 to 20 Shaahi, 1Man lentil 10Shaahi, 1Man Pea 10 Shaahi, 1out of eight of Man tea 5to 7 gheraan, 1Man suger5to 7 Gheran, 1man Sault 2to 3 Shaahi, 100Man straw 1Toman, any cow 75to7 Gheran [2], .later they made a new decision that whenever they got run out of wheat they import Russian flour to Iran [9].

Villages, especially Abbasabad did not produce cereal, Yosef abad had 250 load and Sorkhe hesar 10 loads, and the main difficulties of Tehran were lack of water. Especially in summers they conduct the Karaj River to the city and they wanted to conduct Shemiraan water there too. The instruction was too flow water in all capital regions once in any 10 days. Due to water shortage this instruction was not done after short time. The government expressed that they will do something that people won't have that much water shortage at summers. So the king finished the creek that was dogged from Karaj river but it hadn't had any water till that time, and then so much waters flow too city. For water division there was an instruction and people never had that much water flowing at city. So they built pools at their yard and filled it with flowing water. For bringing Shemiran water to city another creek was decided to be dogged [1].

8. Production and trade of opium

Production of opium at Tehran increased at those ages and its amount at this age is twice at the amount of 1860. Dealers who exported this product with so much danger and cost through Middle East, discovered ocean paths without going around England ports, and they earned so much money this way.

So in most of Iran region which had appropriate weather for plantation of Poppy, it was planted, such as Tehran vicinity and most regains which were abandoned before. After the famine, beside plantation of Opium plantation of cotton increased too.

9. Conclusion

At Naseri age despite of changes of irrigation system, changes of individual lands and so on; agriculture didn't improved that much and one of the main reason was that the wide land was at the possession of main governors and farmers did not had any motivation for improving agriculture. Province governor got extra taxes from people for their consumption in above of regular taxes. Beside tips and bribery was so common at those ages. Unfavorable hygiene, social, cultural condition and inattention of authorities, also famine and cholera and plague were the factors which brought unfavorable economic and social conditions at Naseri age and the

sporadic reforms could not change that much to improve people living conditions.

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