Trade and economic relations of the junior horde during the reign of Abulkhair khan

D.A. Turashbekova

Academy of Labour and Social Relations, Kazakhstan

Abstract. The article is devoted to the dark period of Kazakhstan history when the Ruler Abdulkarim Khan made crucial decision regarding accession of Kazakhstan to Russian Empire. The result of it was loss of Kazakhstan’s independence and national sovereignty. The author analyzes socio-economic and political reasons which urged the Khan to make this step. He concludes that Russian citizenship was beneficial not only for Russia but for Kazakhstan as well. In XVII-XVIII centuries Kazakhstan had serious external political problems caused by the war with Dzungaria and worsening of the relations with Turkmen, Bukhara, Khiva. Russia was looking for new trade markets, raw materials sources and tried to protect its eastern borders. The author accentuates the reasons which made Kazakh people adopt Russian citizenship and criticize those studies which treated this problem improperly. He gives all evidences that Russia was considered by Abdulkarim Khan as an ally and a patron, he hoped to strengthen Khan power with the aid of economic and military union with Russia. The article gives a number of positive moments originated due to accession of Kazakhstan to Russia.

Keywords: trade and economic relations, to become the part of Russia, loss of sovereignty, wish to make Eastern borders safe, Kazakh zhuzes, Jungar tribes, search for potential allies, dynasty and internal political crisis of Kazakh aristocratic elite.

"… History is a continuous fight between a true and by momentary political interests, but … it is impossible to forget that interests are won on an instant, and, true, forever"

Adzhiev.M.E.

This article examines the conditions under which evolved political and economic relations between Kazakhstan and Russia. The role of the Junior Horde Khan Abulkhair in the organization of trade and economic relations between the two continents.

The aim of work is to investigate political and economic connections of Kazakhstan with Russia in XVII - XVIII centuries. For the achievement of the put aim it is necessary to find out the socio-economic and political situation of the Kazakh people.

Deep study of historical researches, illuminative the problem of acceptance Kazakhs of citizenship of Russia, has the special value. It consists in that he allows to study an estimation and character of joining, in the context of loss of the Kazakh state system. Proclamation of state independence of Kazakhstan in December, 16, 1991 caused an increased interest in the history of our people, when facing a problem of the study and analysis of the loss of independence as a result of joining the Russian Empire [1].

During discussions new approaches were developed in the study of this problem. So, Zh.K. Kassymbaev marks that to Russia considerable political connections were preceded tacking of Kazakhstan between them [2, p.247]. He paid attention to that the personal interest of Russia, was shown in expansion of the state, and aspiration to secure the east borders.

Joining the peoples of the Russian Empire was considered from the perspective of the colonialist nature of tsarist policy, so it is both peaceful and military uniforms were evaluated as "absolute evil" [3, 4, 5]. The main engine of the accession process were considered as an economic factor, the shopping capital of the search for new markets and sources of raw materials [6, p.98].

The reasons for the Little Horde Khan Abulkhair turn to Russia, N.G. Apollov counted up weakening of value of khan power and height of feudal lords of "black bone", and also the foreign-policy difficulties, related to intensifying of fight against Dzungar and complications in relationships with Turkmen, Bukhara and Khiva.

I.V.Erofeeva pays attention to that rates and scales of development of process of joining were "determined by not only interests and by the aims of foreign policy of Russia but also dynamics of development of all system of international relations in intercontinental part of Eurasia" [7, p.75].

Political and Economic Relations of the Kazakh and Russian peoples have historical roots and are explained by objective reasons of socio-political, economic, humanitarian and cultural character.

On the border of XVII - XVIII centuries integration tendencies increased in Kazakh society, khan power became stronger. At this time political
influence of the Kazakh khans and sultans spread not only to the traditional nomadic districts but also on nearby settled-agricultural and trade-handicraft areas on the lower and middle flow of Syr-darya, where to Kazakhs were inferior in 1659 32 cities and adherent to them localities together with the Tashkent oasis.

A major role in enhancing the Khan's authority, regulation, partial renewal and unification has long been established in the Kazakh society, legal traditions and norms belonged to his son and successor, Khan Zhangir Tauke (after 1652 - 1715).

Exceptionally heavy internal and external political situation in Kazakhstan has developed in the first third of the eighteenth century. Constant quarrels between neighbors - Bashkirs, Kalmyks and Yaitsky and Siberian Cossacks weakened the Kazakh people.

According CH. Valihanov: " ... the first decade of the XVIII century was a terrible time in the life of Kazakh people ... " From the south, the Kazakh Khanate was threatened Khiva and Bukhara, east serious danger Dzungar Khanate [8, p.174]. Contentions competing for power and pasture land and the city of khans, sultans and other members of the elite steppe slowed the pace of socio-cultural development, prevented the creation of conditions for the consolidation of statehood on the territory of Kazakhstan and significantly reduced the defenses of the Kazakh Khanate.

In 1723, the Dzungar tribes attacked the weakened and isolated Kazakh hordes emerged. In these tragic circumstances three Kazakh Horde united under the authority of Abulkhair khan. It was created by the militia of the Kazakhs. By the years 1728-1729 the Kazakh militia won some important victories, and gradually began to crowd Dzhungars from their land. In the spring of However, the threat of further attacks remains relevant

Abulkhair managed to significantly expand their political influence in Kazakhstan and to achieve a leading role in the military-political life of Kazakh communities. In report, compiled in 1733, Russian ambassador in the Junior horde A.I. Tekelev claimed that over the whole of the Kazakh nobility "has primacy aforesaid Abulkhair Khan", which at the same time "without the consent of the other khans and sultans one another" no action can [2, p.643].

In the end, it all led Abulkhair to find potential allies and patrons outside of the Kazakh steppe. As well in the current domestic and foreign situation made sense to address only the most powerful and influential in the Eurasian space power, in addition to military force which had sustained the tradition of monarchy, then, of course, the vector geopolitical orientation Khan Abulkhair turned in the direction of the neighboring Russian Empire. Abulkhair khan had his way, February 19, 1731 Certificate of Empress Anna Ioannovna had legal force.

Of course it is necessary to agree and that he had, and his own personal reasons. Abulkhair count on the necessary military and political support to gain power in the khan steppes and cause a Russian government interest in the political expansion into neighboring khanate of Khiva and Bukhara, which would allow khan to strengthen its own influence in the countries of Central Asia.

With overdue social, economic, dynastic and political crisis of the Kazakh part of the aristocratic elite, whose encampments were located in close proximity to the Russian border, tried to establish a closer relationship with Russia, counting with the support of the imperial government to stabilize the political situation and to resolve land disputes subservient to her nomadic birth and tribal associations with its northern neighbors, get free access to the rich markets of the Volga region, the Urals and Western Siberia and the Russian troops get help from the Dzungar return previously seized Oirats Kazakh lands in northern and southern part of the Seven Rivers region. It is these objective circumstances, together with the uncertainties of the Institute khan power of the nomadic Kazakhs and the personal ambition of the Little Horde Khan Abulkhair prompted him to ask the 1730 "top" patronage of the Empress Russian [9, p.183].

The most realistic and promising way gain Khan's authorities in Kazakhstan it represents effect lasting public attention, as with the higher title of an authoritative person that obtained through well-known in international practice, the appeal process for external recognition of the authority of the most powerful and influential country in the region and then on the basis of the constitution of the "patronage" of a qualitatively different status and giving khan khan's title fundamentally new content.

Striving Abulkhair concentrate all power in the Kazakh hordes in one link, in the face of the "main" khan, the law has the exclusive right of possession of the supreme title of the hereditary nobility of Kazakh. In addition to the exclusive right to possession of the higher title, autocratic Kazakh khan was competent to decide a variety of domestic and foreign policy issues without the sanction of higher khan board and meetings of influential patrimonial ruler and biys and its decisions bind all the chiefs, warriors and sultans.

The implementation of the acquired powers is a unique overall the kazakh Khan could provide, by the Abulkhair due to newly-formed it with a special administrative law enforcement by establishing external borders and in several locations steppe series of stationary fortified places, where it
was proposed to place small professional foreign contingents of troops, used for defense against external enemies and punitive forced purposes. Based on these beliefs, Abulkhair intended to achieve any cost reclaiming captured Dzungars in the mid 20’s. The city of Turkestan and also build three new cities in the region [10, p.66].

Understanding hopelessness attempts to reform the political system of the nomadic society from within, relying only on themselves, objectively led to his search for potential allies and patrons outside of the Kazakh steppe [11, p.74].

He was informed of the great interest of the imperial government in the establishment of trade relations with the countries of Central Asia through the Kazakh steppe. Abulkhair khan assumed establish effective, stable and self-developing system of government that would provide a high degree of controllability of the nomadic society of the ruling monarch, significantly increase the military defense capabilities prairie state for a successful offensive actions reflect a more powerful neighbors, and this basis, significantly raise the profile of the stable and monolithic Kazakh Khanate in neighboring Eurasian states.

Thus, the entry of the Kazakh Khanate to Russia was historically justified step. According to the eminent historian E. Bekmakhanov: "... the people of Kazakhstan, for many years standing in front of an alternative - to be a slave of Tsarist Russia or Central Asian khanates - chose the first option. This choice was made in an atmosphere of intense political struggle within Kazakh society only after it disappeared last hopes to defend its independence"[12, p. 27].

Russia has sought to gain control of the vast steppe areas to establish trade caravan route to India through Central Asia. On the same economic potential of the Kazakh steppe was judged by traditional farming population, which they took [13, p.132]. Additionally Kazakh steppe has long been a transit area for the caravan trade between the Russian government and the Central Asian lands. Revival of traditional trade, its revival was another reason which has caused the Kazakh Khan appeal to Russian Empress.

Abulkhair, being the sultan, even before the 20-ies of the XVIII century was quite well known in Russian diplomatic circles. "A person of sufficient intelligence and without guile" - so spoke of him, Al Tevkelev [14, p.87]. Abulkhair was hoping to use the Russian citizenship and to strengthen their own, one-man rule [15, p.47].

In order to ensure the stability of government or that Khan and removing soil for endless internecine quarrels, the transfer procedure Khan's title, followed by his presentation to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the People, to abolish the principle of election to the khan of khans and hereditary power under strictly delineated chingisid root. To this end, he found it necessary to legislate only for the title of khan one of the Sultan's name and inside the transmission of the symbol of supreme power mainly in a straight line, from father to son, etc.

Abulkhair khan quickly gained ground. The initial rise and his election in khans occurred in a rapidly rising tide of military confrontation with the Kazakhs Dzungars Volga Kalmyks and Bashkirs. In military operations against Dzungars Abulkhair proved himself a talented military leader, organizer of the popular resistance to the enemy.

The importance of trade -economic and military-political significance was the fact that in Kazakhstan was a road from Russia to Central Asia, Afghanistan, Persia, India, China and other countries. After the success in the Great Northern War, the strengthening of Russia's position in the south of the country and Persian campaigns 1721-1722 y.y. Peter I the task of penetration in Kazakhstan and Central Asia [16].

Important role in expanding economic ties with Central Asia, Russia and Kazakhstan have become overland caravan routes through Mangishlak and Usturt waterway along the Volga and the Caspian Sea. Trade routes passed through the territory of Kazakhstan became increasingly international significance as it links the countries of Eastern and Western Europe to Central Asia. Through the Kazakh nomads gradually improving trade and diplomatic exchanges between Russia and the Central Asian states.

Russia has sought to ensure the security of transit trade routes to Central Asia and other countries of the East. Therefore the Russian government showed genuine interest in the political situation in the steppes of Kazakhstan and the Kazakh Khanate relations with its neighbors. In turn, the Kazakhs who have experienced devastating raids of neighboring feudal states were also interested in relations with Russia as a strong ally. Discussion of these issues was the beginning of diplomatic relations between Kazakhstan and Russia.

Despite all the difficulties that have arisen after the entry of the Kazakh Khanate to Russia, it is a historically significant event had a number of good points:

- trade routes passed through the territory of Kazakhstan, have become increasingly international significance as it links the countries of Eastern and Western Europe to Central Asia. Through the Kazakh
nomads gradually improving trade and diplomatic exchanges between Russia and the Central Asian states;
- connection to the Russian Empire contributed to intensification of trade and economic ties between the two countries. Traditional trade started to recover. Neighbors were also engaged in barter;
- connection to Russia was the only one at a time out of the situation, as the risk of loss of statehood was very great. The entry of the Kazakh Khanate to Russia was historically justified step. This choice was made in an atmosphere of intense political struggle within Kazakh society only after it disappeared last hope to defend their independence.

To minimize the importance of traditional transcontinental trade routes and routes in Kazakhstan affected, in particular, that in the XVIII century. International trade in the south of the Kazakh steppes virtually ceased once flourishing towns near SyrDarya became populated centers, which had only trade and economic importance, and most of them have acquired over time, primarily an agrarian look. At the same time, coming from neighboring Asian countries and Central Asian markets syrdarian agricultural products and handicrafts have been unable to meet the consumer demand of the nomadic population, and access to the Kazakhs to larger markets and goods – capacious Urals, the Lower Volga region and Western Siberia was complicated for them the presence of Russian fortified lines, as well as the tense military and political situation in the Volga- Ural region and in southern Siberia [17, p. 81].

Increased military tension in the southern and south-eastern parts of Kazakhstan extremely adversely affected the socio-economic situation of the Kazakhs. As a result, almost ceaseless military clashes between Kazakhs and Oirats and their mutual military incursions in the border areas to each other have been strongly challenged transit trade and economic relations of the nomadic people of the region with the neighboring nations of Central Asia and Russia.

Strategic challenges posed by the rapid accession of the Kazakh lands to Russia, the gradual involvement of the North-West part of junior and Senior hordes in the economic development of the Empire, in search of more convenient and close markets for Russian products manufacturing, creating favorable conditions for the development of domestic and foreign trade.

Among the most important military leadership talents Abulkhair need to pick out a specific feature it as the ability to maintain clarity of thought, determination and composure in the most extreme circumstances. Its historic mission, he saw to overcome a significant military-technical, institutional and cultural lag Kazakhs from more advanced in these areas of neighboring nations and become the head of a centralized, strong and economically prosperous Kazakh khanate, able to play a significant role in the international arena.

Featuring a broad philosophical outlook and developed a rational and analytical way of thinking, it is quite sober and realistic assessment of the likely prospects of Kazakh society in harsh geopolitical circumstances of the time and distinctly aware of what a serious danger threatens the ethno-territorial integrity of the Kazakhs as a single socio-cultural community in the near future [17, p.321].

As the most advanced at the time of the Kazakh leader Abulkhair clearly saw what was happening before his eyes global redistribution of the geopolitical map of the continent fraught with considerable danger for the future of the Kazakh state in the international arena [17, p.161].

Construction of cities and Kazakh steppe for many years had one of the highest priorities in the draft of the future political reforms Institute Khan's power, plotting Abulkhair. In this case, khan suggested that the construction of the new city will be useful not only to enhance the value of the khan's domestic political power, but also to protect the interests of the potential of the Kazakh population from external enemies.

Created as military strongholds Orsk, Orenburg, Petropavlovsk, Semipalatinsk, Ust-Kamenogorsk, as well as forts and other settlements, as the establishment of economic relations between nomadic Kazakh population and residents of the Cossack settlements began to play an increasingly important role in expanding trade relations with Russia Kazakhstan, Central Asian possessions, the Qing empire and the other countries of Central Asia [2, p. 194].

Because of historical and geographical conditions of Kazakhstan formed two Trade Center: on the one hand, Orsk, Orenburg in the North West and on the other hand, paragraphs Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semey, Petropavlovsk, Omsk, Ämysevsk, Železinsk. Through them and made trade with neighbouring countries.

Thus, the exchange-yards, custom established in the cities and border settlements, drawing from one year to the merchants of the Kazakh steppe, the interior provinces and from neighboring countries, have played a prominent role in the normalization of the political climate in the region. Trade through strengthening bring significant revenue to the treasury and Asian traders meet the needs of nomads in manufactured goods showed a
commonality of economic interests and the proximity of trading parties.

An essential element of innovation in the trade and economic interests and incentives Abulkhair in comparison to its predecessors was the mercantilist idea of the association of the level of trade with the socio-economic and political prosperity of the state and increase their prestige in the international arena. On the basis of his great concern about the growing international reputation of the Kazakh hordes khan wanted to deploy a barter Kazakh with Russian merchants.

Corresponding Author: 
Dr. Turashbekova D.A. 
Academy of Labour and Social Relations 
Kazakhstan

References

4/14/2014