

Sea. In the place where I crossed it in the winter of 1869, one of its spurs separates the waters of its eastern affluents, *e. g.* Sabachia, Spuskovaya, and Dressvianaya, from its northern affluents, *e. g.* the Podyemnoi. If we take a look at the course of the Anadyr on the map, and find the place where this river bends abruptly from north to east, my words will be perfectly plain. I arrived at Nijne-Kolymsk on the 2nd of December, having accomplished 800 miles in twenty-four days.

During my stay at Nijne-Kolymsk, I determined the longitude of the place by a series of lunar distances to be  $160^{\circ} 56' 3''$ , and its latitude  $68^{\circ} 31' 56''$ , which agrees very closely with Wrangel's observations, *viz.*  $160^{\circ} 56' 34''$  and  $68^{\circ} 31' 53''$  respectively.

### 3. *A Voyage to Uzbekistan in 1671-72.\** (From documents preserved in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Moscow.)

[ABSTRACT by Capt. CLARKE, R.A.]

IN the year 1669 Boris Andréyéwitch Pazukhin was sent by the Tsar Alexis Mikhailowitch (father of Peter the Great) to the khans of Khiva, Bokhara, and Balkh. He left Moscow on the 30th of June, 1669, provided with letters from the Tsar, and presents for the different khans. Descending the Rivers Moskwa and Oka, he arrived on the 20th of July at Kazan, from which place he passed down the Volga to Astrakhan, after being joined by an escort of *Streltsi* (the soldiers of that epoch). In consequence of the delay of the escort, however, it was not until August of the following year that Astrakhan was reached.

In the seventeenth century, according to Pazukhin, there were three routes into Uzbekistan: (1) Across the Caspian to Astrabad, and thence by Meshhed and Merv to Bokhara—a journey of fourteen weeks; † (2) From the Port of Karagan on the Mangyshlak Peninsula to Khiva. From Karagan to Khiva was only four weeks' journey, but the duration of the passage from Astrakhan to Karagan depended on the force and direction of the wind. This was the shortest route, but the most dangerous, both on account of the storms, which were of constant occurrence, particularly in autumn, and also owing to the aggressive character of the nomad Turkoman tribes inhabiting Mangyshlak. (3) Lastly, Khiva could be reached by passing along the northern side of the Caspian. This was the route selected at the recommendation of the Voyvod of Astrakhan, Prince Prosorovsky, as being the least dangerous. But it was impossible to proceed without guides and an escort, and at the order of the Tsar, transmitted by the Voyvod, the Calmuck Khan, Daïtchine Taïsha, encamped on the banks of the Ural, placed six of his subjects at the disposition of the envoy.

Pazukhin purchased at Astrakhan nineteen camels, and left on the 10th of March, 1671, for Khiva.

After fourteen days' march he arrived on the River Ural, at the camp of the Calmucks, who, like other nomads, were preparing at this season to move to more northerly regions, from which they return in the autumn.

On the 1st of April, Pazukhin quitted the Calmuck camp, and, after halting for a day on the 31st of the same month on the banks of the River Saniz, at the encampment of the tribe (*uluss*) of Nazar Mahmoud, grandson of Daïtchine

\* Communicated and read by Mons. Nicholas Tcharikoff, at the Congress of Orientalists at St. Petersburg in 1876.

† A day's journey (*dniashtché*) = 20 miles.

Taisha, the Russian envoy arrived on the 14th of May before Kata, the first town in Khivan territory,\* two days' journey from the capital.

The Khan of Khiva, Navsha Mambet Khan, had already sent to this town to meet Pazukhin *Khoudaberdei*, who acted as commissary to all foreign missions coming to Khiva.

On the 16th of May, *Khoudaberdei*, accompanied by some soldiers, Uzbeks, and others, met Pazukhin and his suite a few miles from the town. *Khoudaberdei* greeted the envoy in the name of the Khan, and presented on behalf of his master a richly-caparisoned horse. He conducted him to the village of *Djanarobei*, where tents were prepared for the travellers, and afterwards proceeded to announce the arrival of the mission to the Khan.

Two days later, Pazukhin and his suite made their entry into Khiva mounted on magnificent horses provided by the Khan, and accompanied by two *Yassauls* (persons of rank), a hundred Uzbeks, and large numbers of citizens. The envoy and his suite were lodged in the old palace of the Khan.

The audience took place on the 21st of May. The Khan received Pazukhin seated on carpets spread over the floor of the "golden room," which was situated in the middle of his garden. Near the Khan were seated twenty-four *Atalyki*, and other personages of the Court; in front of the door were *Yassauls* with long sticks, and upwards of a hundred Uzbeks. The Khan took from Pazukhin's hand the letter of which he was the bearer, inquired after the health of the Tsar, and listened to the envoy's address.

Afterwards various eatables were handed round on silver plates, with water and milk (probably *Kumis*) in golden goblets. When the repast was over, Pazukhin returned to his domicile.

The presents which Pazukhin had brought for the Khan, as well as those which he distributed to the persons of the Court, were received with evident feelings of satisfaction.

On the 24th of the same month Pazukhin was again invited to the Khan's palace, and, after a similar repast, the Khan, at Pazukhin's solicitation, gave him permission to proceed to Bokhara. At this audience the question of liberating the captive Russians in Khiva and the surrounding countries was discussed at length between the Khan and the envoy. The former ultimately promised that the traffic in Russian prisoners should cease, that they should no longer be sold in distant countries, and, while awaiting the Tsar's answer relative to the purchase of the prisoners, agreed that a certain number of Russians should be sent gratuitously to Moscow with Pazukhin when the latter again passed through Khiva on his return to Russia.

Leaving Khiva on the 3rd of June, Pazukhin arrived on the same day at the town of *Khanki*—all the towns mentioned by Pazukhin still exist—and the next day at *Azarist* (*Khazar-asp*), and after crossing the *Amu*, reached the frontier of Bokhara. After a march of eight days across the desert, the Russian caravan halted not far from the first town in Bokhara—*Kara-Kol*.

The *Dar-aga* of the place, a functionary charged with the administration of justice in commercial matters, and with receiving custom and other dues, received Pazukhin in the same manner as the Khivan commissary had done. The *Dar-aga* informed Pazukhin that the Khan of Bokhara, *Abdul Aziz* (or *Abda Aziz*) had left for the frontier with his troops, in order to give battle to the Khan of *Balkh*; that he was at the time in the town of *Karshakh*, and would be apprised of the arrival of the Russian mission.

On the 23rd of June the Russian envoy entered Bokhara, where he was received by *Tash-Boulat Bii*, to whom the Khan had entrusted the care of the capital during his absence.

It was not until December that *Abdul-Aziz* returned to Bokhara. Pazukhin

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\* The precise halting-place was *Koulabia*, not far from *Kata*.

had meanwhile studied the political and economical condition of the Khanates of Uzbekistan, and gives the following particulars with regard to their army and finances. The army of Bokhara, including the auxiliary troops furnished by the Karakalpaks, comprised upwards of 150,000 men. The army of the Khan of Balkh was less than half the size; while the army of the Khan of Khiva barely numbered 30,000 horsemen. In the event of war, not only the troops, but all the Khivan people—agriculturists, merchants, &c., took part, in the hope of obtaining booty. The mode of warfare which obtained with the Khivans was the same as with the Calmucks, and neither at Balkh nor Bokhara was there at that time any infantry or artillery. The Khans were not rich, as they had distributed nearly all their territory among their dependents instead of pay. The revenue was derived from a house-tax and custom-dues.

Throughout Uzbekistan cereals were sown and irrigation was indispensable. With regard to silk, Bokhara did not produce sufficient for its requirements, and in consequence exported nothing. Khiva produced annually about 16 tons of raw silk, which sold at about a rouble a pound.

The merchandise in greatest demand for the Khivan market included cloth, furs, skins, vessels of various kinds, pins and needles.

Soon after the return of the Khan to Bokhara, Pazukhin was received at the palace. The court of Abdul Aziz appeared much more extensive and brilliant than that of Navsha-Mambet. The Khan was surrounded by the Khosi—his relatives, and by more than 100 other personages of the court. On entering the reception-hall, Pazukhin was supported on the right by the *Divan-Begi* Mahmet-Mazir-Bei, and on the left by the chief magistrate, Datakhabeck.

After Pazukhin had delivered the Tsar's letter to the Khan and read his address, the Khan invited him to be seated, and inquired about his journey, and about the court of the Tsar; and when Pazukhin complained of the molestation to which travellers to Bokhara were subjected, Abdul Aziz promised to write to the Khan of Khiva, with a view to his taking measures for protecting travellers from the nomads.

According to Oriental custom, Pazukhin had to make numerous presents, particularly to the Khosi, who told him, amongst other matters, that it was they who had protected the Russians at Bokhara during the civil wars; and they begged him, in the event of any disturbance in the capital, to come to them for shelter, as they would not plunder or give up those under their protection. Pazukhin had, however, no cause for seeking this protection, as Bokhara was tranquil during the whole period of his stay.

The subject which detained Pazukhin at Bokhara was the freedom of the Russian prisoners. At this epoch the traffic in Russian captives was systematically organised in Uzbekistan. The Calmucks and the Bashkirs made incursions into Russian territory, and carried off the inhabitants of the villages, the streltsi, and the merchants who came in their way. Khivan traders came to the Calmuck and Bashkir camps and purchased the captives. They were afterwards again sold in Bokhara, Persia, and elsewhere. The price of a slave at Khiva was at that time about 40 to 50 roubles. Pazukhin purchased the release of several Russian captives.

After a final audience with the Khan, Pazukhin quitted Bokhara.

Pazukhin had received instructions to visit the Khan of Balkh; but the war then raging between that country and Bokhara, rendered the project impracticable. Pazukhin, however, decided to send his interpreter, who reached the town safely, presented his letter, and on the 23rd of May, 1671, returned with one addressed to the Envoy by the Khan *Souphane-Kouli-Khan*.

Pazukhin did not return to Russia by way of Khiva and the Calmuck

territory, but took the road to the south of the Caspian, through Persia, having been informed that the Khan of Khiva contemplated preventing his return. Leaving Bokhara towards the end of October, Pazukhin arrived, after three days' march, at the frontier town of Tchardjui; and on the 5th of December, the weather being intensely cold, at Merv, the first Persian town. The commandant of the latter place having received authority from the Shah of Persia, then at Ispahan, to allow Pazukhin to pass, gave him guides to conduct him to the town of Meshhed.

From Meshhed Pazukhin proceeded to the south coast of the Caspian, and arrived, without mishap, at the port of Liagrane (Lenkoran), from whence he embarked for Baku.

Not finding at this latter place any vessel to take him to Astrakhan, and it being already October, Pazukhin decided to winter on the coast.

From Baku Pazukhin proceeded to Shemakha. During this winter he and his companions suffered very much from want of provisions; they were obliged to borrow food, amongst others, from the Ambassador of Poland, who was then at Shemakha. They were also constantly subject to the attack of Lesghians and Persians, who fired upon them and carried off one of the liberated Russian captives. The envoy had not been authorised by the Tsar to make reprisals, so he refrained from punishing these people, in order to avoid giving cause for differences between the Tsar and the Shah of Persia.

Pazukhin finally embarked on the 11th of June, 1673, for Astrakhan with his suite and several merchants; and on the 29th of the same month reached that place.

On the 9th of October Pazukhin returned to Moscow, after an absence of four years and three months.

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