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# About the Population of Tashkent (Late XIX - XX Centuries)

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*Nasirjan Jurabayev*

*Associate Professor, Tashkent State Transport University*

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**Abstract:** The article describes the population of ancient and modern Tashkent in the second half of the XIX century and the XX century, its social structure, specific changes in demographic processes on the basis of comparative analysis.

**Keywords:** Tashkent, population, demography, content, old city, new city, Central Asia, signaling, statistics, urbanization, population list.

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## INTRODUCTION

Sources on the history of Tashkent, which existed until the 90s of the XIX century, contain various, but at the same time contradictory information about its population and socio-demographic composition. For example, according to an annual statistical publication published by the Turkestan Economic Council, the city's population was 100,000 in 1865. [1] Historian J. Rahimov estimates that before the Russian invasion (1865) the city's population was about 200,000. Elsewhere, the author notes that the city had a population of about 80,000. In our opinion, this figure probably belongs to the population of the Old Town. It is clear that the decline in the city's population was due to the policy of forcible relocation of the local population from the New City area, which was intended to be built by the colonialists[2].. Nevertheless, the city's population grew significantly by the end of the 19th century. According to the 1897 census, the city's population reached 156.4 thousand. Of these, 88.4% were men and 68.0% were women[3]. At the same time, the urban population has increased due to external migration. This was due to the policy of resettlement and Russification of the country at that time, the number of foreigners in Tashkent was 26.2 thousand people, or 17% of the city's population. According to the 1871 census, the population of the Yangi Shahar part of

Tashkent reached 2,073. Nationally: Russians - 1289, Uzbeks - 318, Kazakhs - 114, Germans - 110, Tatars - 98, Jews - 6, Mordvins - 5, Bashkirs - 3, Persians - 3, Danes - 2, Afghans - 1, Moldavians - 1, Georgians - 1, British - 1 [5].

## LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

More reliable information about the history of Tashkent in the second half of the XIX century can be found in the work of historian Muhammad Salih "History of Tashkent". It provides interesting information about the socio-economic situation of the city from 1863 to 1888, in particular, districts, neighborhoods, mosques, madrasas, cemeteries, the population and its activities.

It is known that the city of Tashkent is located in a favorable geographical area; it played an important role in the political life of the khanate (Kokand), and had the opportunity to enter the international arena in foreign trade (Russia, China). Of course, the colonialists took this into account when developing their political, economic, military, and strategic plans for Central Asia. It can be said that these factors were the basis for the selection of the city as the political center of the Governor-General of Turkestan.

The population of Tashkent has been growing steadily in recent years. In 1913,

the city's population was 256.7 thousand, and by 1925 it had grown to 301.0 thousand. During the years of World War II, there was an unnatural trend in the dynamics of urban population growth. In particular, while the population declined sharply as a result of mass mobilization and declining natural births, it increased significantly at the expense of those evacuated from war-torn countries. Accordingly, the city's population had reached 727,000 in 1943. However, in 1940 it was 600,000. From an administrative-territorial and structural point of view, the population of the city looks different. For example, according to the 1959 census, Uzbeks accounted for 34.4 percent of the city's population and Russians for 42.5 percent. In the second half of the twentieth century, the share of Uzbeks in the capital's population increased again, while the share of Russians began to decrease. If we look at the growth dynamics of the number of Russians living in Uzbekistan, the highest growth rates were in 1959-70. The average annual growth during this period was almost 3.5%. This is due to the fact that after the 1966 Tashkent earthquake, many Russians and other Europeans migrated due to the reconstruction of the city and the establishment of new industrial centers. However, in recent years, the share of Uzbeks in the population has been growing steadily. For example, this figure was 37.2 percent in 1970, 40.8 percent in 1979, and 44.2 percent in 1989. However, this figure is not positive compared to 1920, when the number of Uzbeks in the city was 65.6%. [6]. The gender composition of the population is an important demographic indicator. The results of the 1897 census show that the proportion of women in the population is 45.9% and the proportion of men is 54.1%. By 1959, the proportion of women had risen to 54%. This, of course, was due to the effects of World War II. At the same time, as a result of the demographic recovery of the population, the share of women and men is equal in the

country. According to the latest data, the number of men in Uzbekistan in 2021 will be 17.4 million (50.3%), and the number of women will be 17.2 million (49.7%). [7].

## DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

There is also a certain peculiarity in the location of the city on administrative structures. The largest number of Uzbeks - 71.7% - belongs to Shayhantahur district, the lowest - 25% to Mirabad district. While in Uzbekistan the share is 80%, in Tashkent this figure is only 61.1% [8]. In other words, three-quarters of Uzbeks live in the city's Almazar (formerly Sabir Rakhimov), Shayhantahur, Yunusabad and Uchtepa districts. Yunusabad, Mirzo Ulugbek and Almazar districts of the city are the leaders in terms of population, with an average population of more than 250,000 people in each of them [9]. In the first years of independence, the total population of the city was 2133.0 thousand people, but in recent years there has been a state of sanitation. This was due to demographic conditions such as urbanization processes, declining employment rates, declining birth rates and natural increase. If the natural increase of the population of Tashkent per 1,000 people in 1960 was 19.3 people, in 1995 this figure decreased to 8.5, which is almost 2.5 times lower than the national average [10]. After all, such a demographic tradition is characteristic of all major cities. Consequently, such a gap is slowly disappearing.

**Conclusion:** Today, Tashkent is one of the largest industrial and highly intellectual cities in Central Asia. The overall look of the city changed completely during the years of independence. Its international prestige as the capital is growing. With a population of more than 2.5 million, the city has become one of the largest megacities in Central Asia. It ranks fourth among 23 millionaire cities in the CIS after Moscow, Kiev and St. Petersburg.

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