

Some Pages Development of Entrepreneurship in the Empire of Amir Temur

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Abstract:- This article discusses the development of entrepreneurship in the empire of Amir Temur. The empire has developed a special program for the development of entrepreneurship. Social protection of the disadvantaged sections of society was an important course of government. Low-income sectors of society are focused on entrepreneurial activities in the field of agriculture, domestic and foreign trade. As a result, the conduct of the state program to improve the living conditions of citizens in the empire creates new entrepreneurial strata of society in rural areas and cities. They played an important role in the trade and economic development of the empire. We must carefully study this topic in the future; it has scientific and practical significance at the modern stage of reform.

Keywords: Amir Temur, empire, entrepreneurship, social protection, trade.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the XIV-XV centuries, Amir Temur was famous by the name “Tamerlan” in Europe. Although realization of several military journeys by Temur, he focused on keeping of economic developments in his country. From the paths of this progress we can see that the government played a main role in management of policy and reformation.

In our point of view, the following factors had greatly affected to the developments of entrepreneurship in high stages:

Amir Temur believed that the richness of the nation leads to the rise in treasure. In its turn, the rise in treasure develops the military potential of the army which is the main reason for the safeness of government’s reputation. To the contrary, ruining the “raiyyat” (nation, population) leads to the decrease in treasure. Automatically, the downturn in treasure makes the army poorer which results in instability of the policy[i].

Government motivated the poor to make a business in the country and freed the new opened business from the tax for three initial years.

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As it was written in “Temur Tuzuklari” (Temur’s laws)), Amir Temur ordered the support of enough gold to the entrepreneur who lost his business in order to take a place again[ii]. This shows a well-organized monetary system by the policy of the government.

The motivation was directed not only for businessmen, but also for all citizens such as farmers and handicraftsmen. If farmers do not have enough capital to seed, the government provided them by necessary instruments and things. About this in “Temur tuzuklari (Temur’s laws) ” was said: “If one from farmers or population is not able to do farming financially, give him necessary amount of seed and instruments to start[iii] ”

Because of the important role in the domestic and foreign policy, traders had lots of advantages in the period of Amir Temur. We can class them into grand commercials who realized international trades, middle and little businessmen. From the one side, they provided the demand of the nation; secondly, by giving taxes and duties, they enhanced the financial power of the government.

Among them the international traders were mostly reputed. Who commerce in bazaar were named “Ahli bazaar” and they divided into particular groups such as ordinary traders, buyer-sellers and profiteers[iv]. Amir Temur gave a great attention to the building of suitable bazaars and trading lines and arches. In order to support international relations, he reconstructed The Great Silk Road and provided the safeness of foreign traders. These factors mostly affected to the development of inter-trade relations among the co-partners between the East and West.

Beside men, women also had rights to have a business. As a fact to our opinion, we give an example: “In Temur’s administration, not only from rural places in Movarounnahr, but also in a geographical place from China and Xutan to the borders of Delhi and Kanbayit, from “Bab ul-Abwab” to the territory of Egypt and Rome, beside the men, even children and women traded with silk materials, gold, silver and other noble things. No one kept an eye on their things and took even a dirham [v]”.

In our opinion, in this time there existed different ranks of the land owners. Among them, citizens who got a title “Tarkhan” for their strengths to the government had a great reputation. Tarkhans were free form land taxes, freely attended government conference, forgiven for their wrongdoing for the nine times. As historian Hilda Hukhem wrote, tarkhans didn’t share their achievements which got in battles with the king[vi]. In addition, lots of privileges were provided in management of business activity to them.

Some Pages Development of Entrepreneurship in the Empire of Amir Temur

Some grand owners of land opened profitable stores, workshops, bathhouses and gave the houses for rents. Some of them were head of many big trade lines and caravansarays(hotels). This fact presents us information about great urbanization in the days of Amir Temur.

On these days, also middle and small feudalists were themselves classed into upper, middle and lower groups according to their owned land, property and ownership.

In the country money-goods relations were highly developed other than paying by natural ways so the government paid great attention to the effective management of the monetary policy.

With other classes, in social and economic life of society, handicrafts played a significant role in the state. Especially, contribution of some handicrafts such as sewers, carpenters, candy makers, bakers and ironworkers took main place in the process of production. Handicrafts from the countries occupied by Temur, took the handicraft-making sector into new high stage. All these mentioned factors were good condition for the handicraft-making progress and day by day the volume of the sector gained bigger place in export relations. In addition, Movarounnakhur played the leading role at weapon-making, paper producing and cloth-making in Asia.

RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

Another main point in the policy of the government is a tax system.

Tax was collected only one time in the year, and sometimes much easiness was presented. In this, first of all, financial statement of the population was truly considered and taken all opportunities during the collection.

Amir Temur says in his book "Temur tuzuklari (Temur's laws)"; "If a citizen agrees with the hiroj (tax) so far, the government than continue an activity with him, if not, the responsible men should collect the tax according to the true financial condition of population. And again, I order that the tax (hiroj) should be collected according to the harvest and productivity of the land. Besides, all the lands which are irrigated with water of rivers, springs and canals should be registered constantly and from the harvest of these lands, two thirds (2/3) goes to raiyat (population) and one thirds (1/3) goes to the treasure of the government[vii]".

We want to point out that the hiroj might be paid in cash according to the pricing condition. If a farmer does not agree with one thirds, the land in his property was divided into three *jaribs* (1 jarib = 3600 sq) and from the first jarib should be taken three harvori (1 harvori =103-105 kg), from the second two harvori and from the last jarib one harvori[viii].

If the population does not agree even with this, by the government was offered another suitable alternative paying system. No any other taxes were collected out of the settled rules[ix].

Beside these, all of the harvest earned in autumn, spring, winter and summer was fully given to the farmer. It was forbidden to collect tax from the non-ripped harvest.

Another reasonable factor to the development of entrepreneurship in a great volume is the location of the country consisting of 27 states and intersection of all of the great trade ways in this large territory. For this reason, in the

country economic integration increased gradually. For the centuries Amir Temur completely reconstructed and enlarged all the directions of the Great Silk Road which were destroyed during the Mangol's attacks. Thus the pick point of the development of the Great Silk Road is right for Temur's age.

It is known that international trade relations were supported by the government in this time and we can see this fact in the written documents. Amir Temur highly tried to keep diplomatic relations with other countries and in his letters; first of all, he declared the presentation of the variety of advantages to the businessmen and accurately pointed out that free entrepreneurship had a great effect to the development of the country.

For instance, in 1393, Amir Temur sent his delegation consisting of well-known representatives from Sova town to Bagdad, to Egypt governor and of course he never forgot presenting valuable gifts.

The representative brought Temur's message to the governor and talk about constant friendship between the states and at this time in Movarounnakhur there were not any renowned kings from the lineage of Chingizkhan. Then he gave information about political instability among the countries and offered cooperation in order to increase bilateral interested activities. As it was written in this letter, Amir Temur said to the governor: "After the instability, there came lots of leaders from many different sects and hostility took place among them over the world. There is no any humanitarian law. At this time the main duty is that we should keep cooperation terms and open the door of friendship and by this, let's our representatives freely travels between the countries and create new peaceful ways for our traders. Let's our negotiation be base for the prosperity of the population and safeness of the trade ways of both countries[x]". We can present lots of letters like that from the historical documents.

Amir Temur established friendly diplomatic relations with the countries in Europe and according to his philosophical saying "A country may stay without religion, but where there is cruelty" he kept friendly attitude towards non-Muslims and chose them as future partners. According to the written facts[xi], he tried to exchange diplomatic representatives with European countries and besides, paid attention to the establishment of great opportunities for the international traders who bring main effect to progress of the countries. Amir Temur was the first prominent figure who gave a hand of friendship from the Muslim east to the west.

In his corresponds to European sovereigns he said "We are very grateful to meet your traders and we show great honor If you send us them. We would be very happy if you meet our traders with such respect when they travelers to your cities on business. Let's them travel safely and without any threat. It is useless to deny a folk tale "Traders prosper the world"[xii]".

From the meaning of the letter we can understand that Amir Temur, for the development of international trade, was a surety on creating the great opportunities, strengthening and guarantying the rights of traders and call all the kings to do such meritorious activities. Scientists are now giving a name “The policy of giving a hand” for Temur’s diplomatic relations[xiii].

In another letter sent by Temur to Sharl VI, for his respect Temur said: “ The sound of your name to the far states and your high reputation among the other kings, all about these, devotes of whole East and our brother Ioan had told. The text in this letter informed us about his diplomatic method.

Another point in the letter is that he said again “By establishing inter relations between our countries, we would want to rise our property and to gain high profit from bilateral trades. Indeed, it is honor for us to keep the safeness of your traders[xiv]”. In Amir Temur’s period, it was first time that eastern and western trade relations were settled as an official activity.

After father’s death, Temur’s son, Mirzo Mironshoh continued his traditions. By sending a message to Christian kings and princes, he aimed the followings:

“Mironshokh Kurogoniy, this is our word; we send our greetings to Christian believers which we have chosen, respect of the God on them, Christian French kings and princes. Full of our hearts with brotherhood senses, I would like to inform you, if you present your wishes to come here, we will accept[xv]”.

Mirzo Mironshokh, by calling his own co-partners to the country, he made a word about their future chances and guarantee and protecting their interests.

Especially, an episode in his letter will help us to understand brighter the aim of Temurids’ statehood. Mirzo Mironshokh says: “if about traders, we would wish your traders in your country and your traders in our country to travel safely and as it is now. However, there is a difference between our views in religion, we should constantly keep all our bilateral friendly interests[xvi]”.

Mironshokh Mirzo pointed out that the differences between the faiths won’t be border to the progress and the prosperity overcomes the disagreement

The right choices by Amir Temur in diplomacy show us perfect management of government policy. And this, on its turn, played an important role to strengthen national sovereign bases. In foreign activities, regardless of nationality, he calls for valuing humankind, saving the cooperation, peace and development.

Among the temurs’, by settling successful diplomatic corresponds between neighbor countries, Shohrukh Mirzo also declared the following ambitions:

In his letter to the emperor of China, he called the emperor for believing in only one God (monotheism), creating suitable opportunities for the traders and providing prosperity of the nation.

About this, it was said in one letter: “The worthy of the passing world and sovereign, continuous governing and policing, supporting the fairness and justice, a hope of making charity, to all these, it is only possible to achieve by ending multi-religion system in the world. Our hope from the khan Doy Ming and government officials is that on realizing the mentioned activities and strengthening the rules

of Shariyat, be our partner and send us your representatives and informers. Keep your ways opened for the travelers and traders in order to save our friendship and love. Support the unity and take away the unanimity, let’s our nations accomplish the prosperity and be existed mean of equality among the ranks of population[xvii]”.

Shohrukh Mirzo, taking the way of his father, attempted to protect rights of entrepreneurs by the means of cooperation.

Of course, on the way of establishment and development of these relations, The Great Silk Road played an important role, especially by being an international bridge among the nations.

Sahibqiran, by evaluating The Great Silk Road, tried to achieve the aims in order to provide safeness and peace of his own and neighbor country. In the period of Amir Temur, on the continents where intersected interests of the countries were build customs house. One of them is situated at the location of Caucasus Mountain Ranges near the Caspian Sea. The second one is named “Darband” customs house and located between Samarkand and Balkh, established in the distance of two days from Shahrisabz. These customs houses transfer a big amount of capital to the central treasure every year[xviii].

In some years, these profits became equal to the all land tax comings from the countries which were under the control of Amir Temur[xix].

Via the Great Silk Road, Amir Temur not only strengthened the defense, saved peace and stability, developed warm neighborhood and trade-economic relations, but also realized geopolitical ambitions. At the time where there were not any Sea ways, The Great Silk Road earned a great importance in the international arena and which state guided on it, it gained a variety of economic and political opportunities.

It is known that there went tense struggles for the leading position on the Great Silk Road and its particular part that crossed our country’s territory was resettled to the North (in the period of Turkish and Mongolian Empire).

Sahibqiran Amir Temur considered the owning and controlling of The Great Silk Road in any situation as a holy concept and pledge of the safeness.

In the aim of guaranteeing traders’ business activities and establishing advantages to the entrepreneurs, he managed the activity of The Great Silk Road at the balance. By placing special observers at each stops, he provided safe dispatching from one place into another destination. If someone lost his capital on the particular part of the Road, he appointed the hakims and other administrators of these territory as a responsible for this unfairness. The settlement of the rule expressing the collection of the lost on behalf of the official became one of the legal guaranteeing bases in international trade ways. If one’s belonging was stolen, the hakim of this territory paid it nine times; two shares were paid to the owner, seven shares were sent to the capital Samarkand.

Some Pages Development of Entrepreneurship in the Empire of Amir Temur

These legal bases give the traders an opportunity for freely traveling on the caravan ways.

At that time, via The Great Silk Road with the length of 12000 miles, there were settled multilateral relations between Eastern countries. Similarly, by reaching the Mediterranean Sea via The Road, there were established constant trade-economic and diplomatic activities with Western states.

CONCLUSION

By the development of international trade, Amir Temur opened a new page in integration process. In his territory consisting of 27 states, the functioning of sole monetary policy, chances and advantages to the entrepreneurs, free economic exchange system between the Muslim and Christian world was one of the main events at that period.

In general, there were many factors that affected to the development of entrepreneurship and we hope these will be learned more completely by the next researches in the future.

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