



Types of Criminality and their Territorial Differences (in the example of Kokand City)

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Abstract: In this article, the types of crime and their territorial aspects specific to the Kokand city, one of the largest cities of the Republic of Uzbekistan, are studied. An analysis of the last 5 years (2018-2022) of serious bodily injury, theft, and drug-related crimes among the types of crimes committed in the city was conducted. 1:50,000 scale maps of property, person and drug crimes were created using Arc GIS software.

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Key words: geography of crime, geocriminogenic situation, hotbeds of crime, theft, drug addiction.

1. Introduction

The city of Kokand is located in the western part of Fergana region, in the lower part of the Sokh river (Fig.1). The city of Kokand is one of the centers of industry, trade, culture, and tourism of the Fergana region. The first information about the city can be found in written sources in the 10th century. Local historians and archaeologists believe that the city is more than two thousand years old [2]. The area is 37 sq.km, and it consists of 68 Mahalla Committees (MFY). It borders with the districts of Furkat, Dangara, Uchkuprik, Uzbekistan. Muqumiyy township located on the border of Uchkuprik and Uzbekistan districts is also part of the city. An important railway and road (A-373) connecting with the Sughd region of the Republic of Tajikistan and the major cities of the valley (Andijan, Fergana, Margilan), Tashkent region passed through the city. It is one of the main centers of Fergana region for the production of industrial products. As the city is located in a convenient geographical location, it was the capital of the Kokand Khanate. We found it necessary to dwell on the economic indicators of the city above. The reason is the high influence of economic factors in the formation of the geocriminogenic situation. In all parts of the city, there are differences in the types of crimes and their occurrence between the massifs and neighborhoods. One of the main goals of the geography of crime is to identify correlations and differences, to develop suggestions and recommendations.

2. Literature review

The analysis of the types of crimes committed in cities in the world can be found in the studies of C.

Shaw and H. McKay (1942), E. Aksoy (2017), D. Johnson (2018), H.F. Orsini (2018), S. Chainey (2021). For example, C.Shaw and H.McKay (1942) determined the influence of social and environmental factors on juvenile delinquency in the city of Chicago. S.Chainey (2005, 2021) studied property crimes in cities using geographic information systems [5].

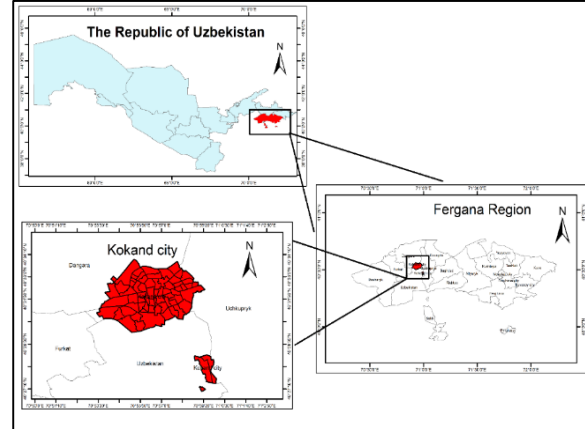


Figure 1. Geographical location of Kokand city.

A. Kayumov (2006) studied the crimes committed in the Republic of Uzbekistan and the city of Tashkent with the help of social surveys [8]. For 19 administrative-territorial units of Fergana region, there are studies by N. Komilova and B. Makhmudov on 17 types of crime in 5 areas and their regional differences [7]. M. Nazarov's social studies deal with drug trafficking, its "hotspots", its location features, influencing factors, and issues related to crime in large cities such as Kokand, Fergana, and Margilan [10].

3. Results

Crime geography studies crime as a social reality. This socially dangerous disease has always had a negative impact on the development of society. Each type of crime has a different impact level and scale, and it is determined by its social danger. So, one of the main indicators of crime classification is its social danger. According to Article 15 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, according to the level of social danger, crimes are divided into low social risk, mild, serious and extremely serious crimes. 3.4% of the crimes committed in the city of Kokand in 2022 are very serious, 26.4% are serious, and the remaining 17% are not serious, and the rest correspond to crimes with a low social risk. In addition, crimes are focused on a certain goal and object. From this point of view, it is also widely used to classify crimes according to the person (murder, defamation, injury), property (theft, robbery, extortion, etc.), society (bullying, drug-related, etc.).

Along with the economic and social development of society, new types of crime are emerging (for example, cybercrimes). Determining the causes and conditions of each type of crime and developing measures to combat it is one of the important tasks of every country in the world, especially our country. We focused on studying their dynamics and territorial characteristics. It should be noted that on November 29, 2021, the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the concept of public safety of the Republic of Uzbekistan and measures to implement it" PF - 27, crimes that can be prevented in the neighborhoods, 97, 98, 99, 141, 142, 164, 165, 166, 169, 170, 173, 215, 217, 219, 225, 229, 244, 245, 249, 263, 2631, 267, 269 and 277 articles of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Articles are directly related to the criminogenic situation of the neighborhood, the need to maintain statistics was determined [1]. In addition to these, statistics on types of crimes (for example, 251, 2511, 270, 276, 131, 278, 249) identified in the area by the internal affairs officers of the region through quick measures are also kept together. In studying the geocriminogenic situation of Mahalla Committees, we paid more attention to the dynamics of crimes committed and identified in the neighborhood and their territorial aspects. According to available statistics, crimes related to murder, bodily injury (severe, medium, light), defamation, invasion, robbery, theft, extortion, hooliganism, drug addiction made up 93% of the total types of crime. Among the types of crimes, we found it necessary to start the analysis with crimes against the person, because these crimes are primarily aimed at the person and are characterized by a high level of social danger for the society. Other types of crime, although the number is

significantly less (in fact, there are many), but they require more attention. The reason is that at the center of any socio-geographic research is a person and issues related to him, and this type of crime is directly aimed at the person [6].

According to the information of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Fergana region, the number of crimes against the person in the city of Kokand has been steadily decreasing since 2014 (until 2019) (Fig. 2). Since 2020, there has been a slight increase in crimes such as willful bodily harm, and a decrease in crimes such as manslaughter and defamation. The decrease in crimes against the person is definitely a positive thing.

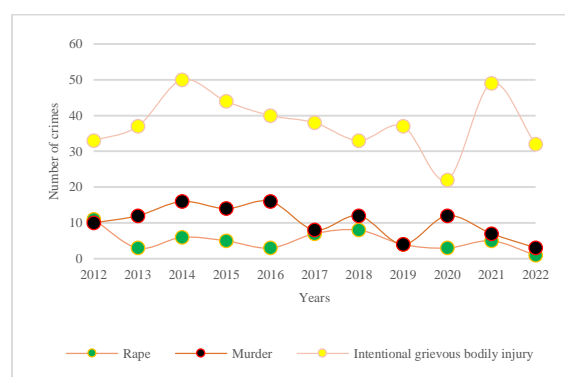


Figure 2. Dynamics of crimes against the person in the city of Kokand

The graphic was compiled by the author based on the information of the Department of Internal Affairs of Fergana region

The level and dynamics of crimes against individuals vary by Mahalla Committees, and the latest five-year (2018-2022) analysis shows that 37 Mahalla Committees experienced an increase in crime rates, 19 of which have an average crime rate below the city average for the same period. In 28 Mahalla Committees, the crime rate has decreased, and in 10 of them, the average crime rate is higher than the city average for the same period. During 2022, the most crimes were committed in Yangiabad, Raykhan, Davronbek, Shaldiramok Mahalla Committees, but not recorded in Tokhlimergan, Bunyodkor, Misgarlik, Artizonboyi, A.Temur Mahalla Committees. The average indicator of the city is 1.2 per thousand inhabitants, Yangiabad Mahalla Committee is 3 times higher than this indicator, Davronbek, Vakf Chorsu, Shaldiramok, Sumbula, Gisht Koprik, Raykhon Mahalla Committees are 2 times higher than this indicator. Intentional bodily injury accounted for the largest share of crimes against a person (93%). A smaller share is for defamation and murder. In the

geography of crime, it is important to determine where and why the crimes happened there. In 2022, three murders were committed in the city in Boston, Davronbek, Istikbol Mahalla Committees, and one rape was committed in Shaldiramak MFYs. Two of the murders were due to accusations of jealousy and treason, and one was due to mutual disagreements. There are many reasons for inflicting physical injuries, and the most common among them are bullying tendencies, selfishness, jealousy, revenge, and personal interest [3]. The study found that more crimes are committed in bus stations, parks, and medical institutions, and that in recent years, the slums around the old industrial districts of the city have become a place for "mutual problem solving" (Fig. 3).

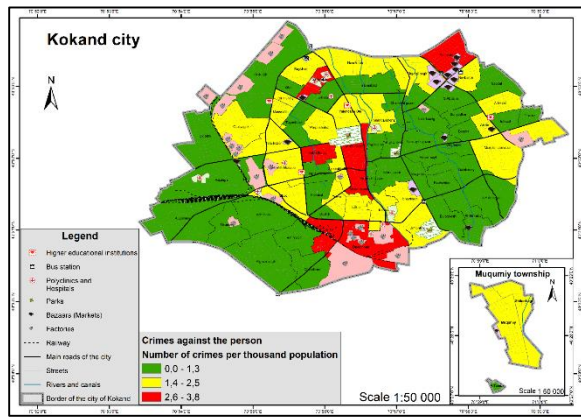


Figure 3. Territorial composition of crimes against a person in Kokand city

The map was developed by the author, based on the information of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Fergana region

There are many areas that need to be strengthened. For example, "Kokand city emergency medical service" is located in Yangiabad Mahalla Committee. Patients, in very serious condition, are brought to the hospital from inner city and neighboring districts. As a result, a geocriminogenic situation has arisen. Cases of injuries to doctors by relatives of patients often occur here. The most common cause is the lack of attention to the patient. The fact that 12 injuries were committed in the hospital during 2022 is also related to this situation. One preventive inspector post has been allocated for Mahalla Committee area, and the area also has tasks such as working with areas with a heavy criminogenic situation (Charkhi bazar) and the neighborhood. Taking into account, that the average number of people, who visit the hospital per

day is around 1,000 so it is not without benefits to attach an internal affairs officer for guarding. In the example above, we highlighted one Mahalla Committee with a severe geocriminogenic situation. The city has a similar "Kokand-Tashkent" bus station, the Great Silk Road shopping complex and other several places.

Crimes against property are among the "classical" types of crimes, taking the property of others covertly (theft), openly (robbery), by force (extortion), by assault or threat (invasion), by deception or breach of trust (fraud). These crimes account for more than half of all crimes. These crimes, first of all, are the leading set of crimes in the growth of the crime level and the formation of the geocriminogenic situation in the Kokand city.

The composition of crimes against property varies widely, with theft and fraud significantly predominating. Robbery, extortion and invasion, which are considered relatively more dangerous, have a correspondingly lower share (Fig. 4).

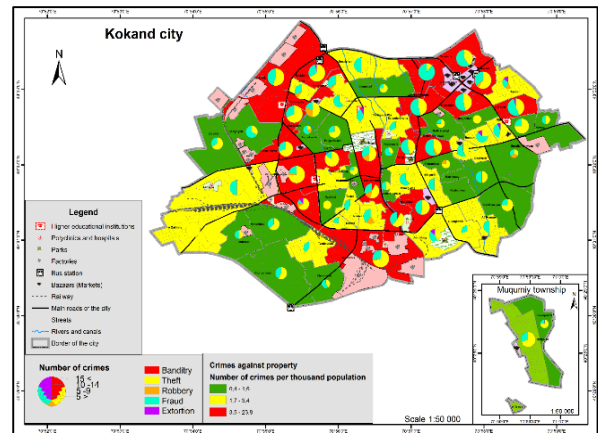


Figure 4. Territorial composition of crimes against property in the city of Kokand.

The map was developed by the author, based on the information of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Fergana region

Theft, which is the secret theft of another's property¹, is the most common type of crime. This type of crime accounts for more than half of property crimes. Theft types include pickpocketing, theft from vehicles, shops and yards. Thefts also vary by time and place. For example, pickpocketing is characteristic of markets and densely populated areas, and is the secret taking of personal items (phones, money) from the stalls, pockets and bags. The time of occurrence is

¹ 169 Article of Criminal Code

mainly during the day, when people go to the market. Thefts from vehicles and houses are mostly committed at night. In recent years, the number of thefts of bicycles and similar personal items from apartment buildings has increased. Another feature of the crime of theft is the high level of secrecy. For example, in 2022, 408 cases of theft were recorded in the city of Kokand, the perpetrator of which was not identified in 249 (61%) cases.

Between 2018 and 2022, the total number of robberies in the city of Kokand increased significantly by 4.5 times. In 2022, the number of thefts per 10,000 population will be 17.8, which is 13.4 more than in 2018. This figure varies considerably across Mahalla Committees. One out of every three thefts is committed in Mahalla Committees located in large bazaars (Sumbula, Navbakhor, Urganji Bog), industrial enterprises (Davronbek, Kuduklik, Ghishtli Mosque), high-rise buildings (A.T. Hokandiy, A. Navoi massiv). In this regard, the Great Silk Road shopping complex, which includes 8 large markets, is the largest market area in Western Fergana and serves as a large shopping center for the surrounding districts of Besharik, Furkat, Dangara, Uchkuprik, Uzbekistan, Bagdad, Buvayda. Especially on Tuesdays and Saturdays of the week, the population is crowded, there are special conditions for shopping. To a certain extent, the disorderly arrangement of stalls, which are mainly spread out, contributes to this.

Crimes related to drugs include cultivation, preparation, storage, transportation, purchase, sale, incitement to use. This type of crime has a direct impact on the decline of society and the increase in the general level of crime. Drug trafficking is one of the most profitable "businesses" in the world, it is on the second place after the illegal arms trade [4]. Therefore, studies investigating different aspects of drug addiction are very relevant. In recent years, instead of natural types of drugs (cannabis, poppy), the sale of powerful drugs (tramadol, regopen, etc.) produced by chemical means has been developing. Experts in the field distinguish the three main zones of drug supply in the world:

The first is "Golden Crescent" (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran as well as India and Nepal); the second "Golden Triangle" (Birma, Laos, Thailand); the third is "Golden Star" (South America: Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador) [4].

Due to the uniqueness of the geographical location of Fergana region, the Republics of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan bordering the region, in recent years, crime such as drug trafficking has become more and more traditional [12]. According to the National Information and Analysis Center for Control of Narcotic Substances under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, although the drug

situation in Uzbekistan is becoming more and more stable, this cannot be a reason for complacency. Due to the fact that a part of the "Northern transit" route of the trade of narcotics produced in Afghanistan passes through Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to the territory of the Fergana economic region, there is still a risk of a certain part of these substances spreading in our country. It is natural that the introduction of narcotics in this way complicates its elimination. The passage of such "highways" through our territory is a factor in creating a dangerous criminogenic situation [9]. Preventing drug-related crimes requires combining all available forces and means to block all routes of distribution of these substances.

Drug distribution often has the character of creating a "hotbed", where the main trading centers are large cities. For example, M.I.Nazarov [10] found that the main centers of sale of drugs in the city of Kokand correspond to the territory of "gypsy neighborhoods", as the locals say. In general, the formation of certain drug-dealing groups has countless negative social consequences for the region. Firstly, there is an increasing population of drug addicts in the region, and it is always difficult to identify those who consume it. Secondly, there are spiritual and moral changes in the persons addicted to drugs. They cannot fulfill their social duties or it is difficult for them to engage in certain social activities. A drug addict spends a lot of money to buy drugs, and gets into a vortex of economic problems. As a result, addicts inevitably become more prone to crime. The research conducted by A.A. Gabiani showed that, in addition to the crimes related to the preparation, storage and sale of narcotic drugs, there is a high percentage of persons who commit crimes of a similar property nature, such as theft, fraud, under the influence of this substance or for the purpose of purchasing it [11]. So, another feature of these crimes is the impetus for the formation of other crimes in the region.

Between 2018 and 2022, the total number of drug-related crimes in the city of Kokand increased by 2.7 times. In 2022, the number of thefts per 10,000 population will be 8.1, which is 4.8 more than in 2018. This figure varies considerably across Mahalla Committees. This indicator is much higher in Yangiabad, Nurafshan, Urganji Bagh Mahalla Committees (Fig.5). In addition, there is a high level of crime related to drugs in Mahalla Committees such as A.Navoi, Shaldiramok, Kuduklik, Yalangach Ota.

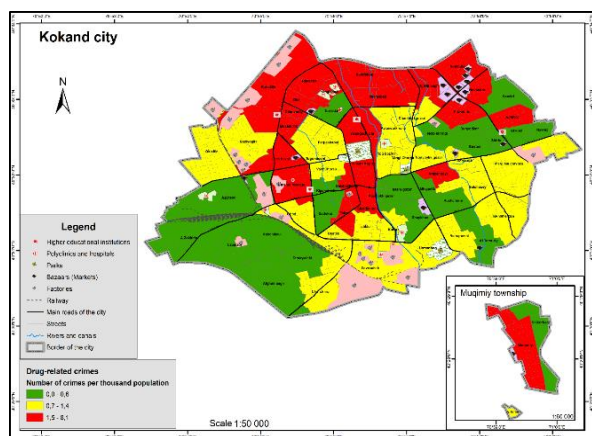


Figure 5. Territorial composition of drug-related crimes.

The map was developed by the author, based on the information of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Fergana region

Conclusion.

According to the results of the conducted research, the weight of crimes related to theft and drug addiction in the city of Kokand is much higher than other crimes. This was influenced by factors such as the large trade center of the city and the concentration of representatives of different nationalities. During 2018-2022, the direction of crimes also changed. In particular, the crime of theft is characteristic of the bazaar, multi-storey buildings, and their weight is quite high in these areas. The production of narcotic drugs is recorded in relatively calm and peaceful areas of the city, and their sale is recorded on major transport routes. In the northern part of the city, including A.T. Hokandiy, A.Charkhi massif, the social environment is relatively negative, it is appropriate to pay attention to this area.

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