

# Fergana Valley during the Zoning Policy of Soviet Government

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**ABSTRACT:** The article discusses the creation by the Soviet government from the beginning of 1925 of central and regional commissions for zoning of the Uzbek SSR. Creation in Fergana Valley in Kokand, Andijan and as a result of division into districts in Central Asia in 1926 is shown. The general state of the organization of the districts is analyzed; the analysis and statistics of socio-economic situations, the degree of employment of the population of the “okrug”, and attention are paid solution of problems. The primary sources are used, a comparative analysis of the Soviet and the current period is presented, and conclusions are drawn.

**KEYWORDS:** Fergana Valley, Soviet government, districts, zoning policy, zoning commission.

## I. INTRODUCTION

After the establishment of Soviet power in Central Asia, one of the measures taken to streamline the administrative-economic, socio-political and other sectors was the policy of regionalization. So, at the beginning of 1925, the Center compiled the central and regional commissions on zoning in the Uzbek SSR. The following persons were appointed to the central commission: Chairman A. Mavlonbekov, members of Zelkin, M. Khodjaev, F. Khodjaev, Prokhorov, E. Konoboev, Gorbunov, Shcherbakov and others [1]. In addition, separate co-missions were drawn up in 7 areas with chairmen and members. At the last meeting of the zoning commission, held on September 29, 1926, it was decided to abolish the viloyats, counties and volosts and create instead districts, districts and village councils. Instead of 7 regions, 10 districts were created in the Uzbek SSR. Three of them were in the Fergana Valley, i.e., Andijan, Kokand and Khojent districts. The study of changes carried out in the 20s. XX century in the above districts during the period of the Center for Regionalization, were of particular importance.

The Kokand district, originally part of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, was considered important from all the districts in the region.

## II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The historiography of this topic “Central Asian zoning policy and its impact” is not so rich. It is advisable to study historical studies on the policy of regionalization and its impact on the development of Uzbekistan, dividing them into the following three groups: the Soviet period, the years of independence and foreign studies. In some, related to the first group [8], studies created by government and political figures, historians and economists, to a certain extent the issues of zoning of Central Asia, the work carried out in this direction in the Uzbek SSR, economic and the political condition of the republic, administrative-territorial division and population.

Another group of publications [9] published in the 20-30s of the XX century addresses zoning issues in the RSFSR and the USSR, administrative and economic zoning in the Turkestan ASSR and the Central Asian republics, issues of economic zoning in the Uzbek SSR and its economic condition. In historical studies [10] published in the 50s - 70s of the XX century, a large place is devoted to coverage of the national-territorial demarcation of Central Asia and the formation of the Uzbek SSR, other aspects of national politics.

In addition, there are articles and speeches by the leaders of the Uzbek SSR and political figures on regionalization in Central Asia and its implementation in Uzbekistan. The authors of these articles and speeches were prominent statesmen Fayzulla Khodjaev, Turor Riskulov, Akmal Ikramov, Yuldash Akhunboboev and many others.

The second group includes collective monographs and fundamental studies [11] published during the years of independence, monographs and defended dissertations by R.Murtazaeva, K.Razhabova, H.Yunusova, A.Rasulova, N.Makhkamova, S.Shodmonova, M.Khaidarova, I.Khaidarova, A.Ermetova, A.Pardaev, O.Rashidov, M.Rakhmatov and other historians, as well as various textbooks and teaching aids on the history of Uzbekistan.

### III. METHODOLOGY

The subjects of the study were the issues of zoning policy in Fergana Valley and its impact on the development of Uzbekistan. The subject of the study is the implementation of the regionalization policy in Central Asia in the chronological period on the topic and its impact on economic transformations in Uzbekistan. The article uses the principles of historicism, systematicity, objectivity, as well as methods of a civilizational approach to the problem, comparative and problem-chronological analysis..

### IV. MAIN PART

According to the 1923 regionalization commission of Turkestan, in the 1920s it was planned to establish the borders of the Kokand district in the northeastern part of the Kokand and Namangan counties and in the territory of the Khojent district of the Samarkand region. Later, the territory of the Kokand district occupied the territories of the volosts Bogcha-Isfara, Gulakandoz, Pistakuz, Nov, Unzhi, Ural and Chankuli of the Khojent district. The borders of the Kokand district began with the county of Avliyot and, lying in the direction of the south and southeast, divided the Kokand district with Chatkal oasis. Passing through the Tashkent district of the Syr Darya region and the Syr Darya district of the Mirzachul district, they traveled to the south of Turkestan. Later, the district was limited to the southern part of Samarkand and the Bukhara Republic, from the northeast by the districts of Fergana and Andijan of the Fergana region (to Namangan) and from the north by the county of Pishpek, Ettisuvskaya region [2, p. 131-132].

According to the Center's State Planning Commission, the territory of the Kokand okrug as part of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic was 36 thousand miles, and the population was about 1 million people. In the district per 1 square. mile averaged 28 people. Turkestan ASSR ranked first among districts. The Kokand district consisted of 1214 settlements, including 4 large cities and 66 settlements of a small urban type. According to the registration data, 50,338 lived in the Kokand district, 40,196 in Namangan, 32,805 in Khojent, and 8,756 people in Chust (1923) [Ibid., P. 132].

After the national-territorial demarcation was carried out in Central Asia, the Kokand district was included in the Ferghana region of the Uzbek SSR [3, p. 1-4]. In mid-1926, that is, on the eve of zoning in Central Asia, the zoning commission of the Uzbek SSR planned to create 19 districts, 417 village councils in the Ferghana region [4, p. nineteen].

After zoning, together with the Khojent district, 28 districts and 565 village councils were created [Ibid., P. 60-62]. In particular, it was planned to create 11 districts in the Kokand district; carried out: Altyaryk, Baghdad, Besharyksky, Buvaidinsky, Kokand, Kuvinsky, Kudashsky, Margilansky, Chustsky, Rishtansky and Ferghana districts were created [5, p. 108].

According to the regionalization commission, the territory of the Kokand district decreased compared to 1924. The total area of the district amounted to 9,641 versts, and the population numbered 654,236 people [6, p. 333]. The territory of the okrug was surrounded from the north and south by Kyrgyzstan, from the west by the Khojent okrug, and from the east by the Andijan okrug [5, p. 109]. The ethnic structure of the Kokand district was mainly Uzbeks - 81% of the total population. Across the entire district, 85% of the rural population were Uzbeks, 8.6% are Tajiks, 2.3% are Kyrgyz, 2.1% are Karakalpaks and representatives of other nationalities. 68.9% of the urban population were Uzbeks, 14.2% - Russians, 9.2% - Tajiks and representatives of other nationalities [Ibid., P. 111]. Trade relations in the Kokand district were also peculiar. Despite the fact that administrative and economic centralization was carried out according to the requirements and interests of the Center, there were still positive shifts that had a positive effect on the lifestyle of the population. In the district, central city markets and rural bazaars operated to satisfy consumer demands of the population and promote trade. For example, there were Besharik, Rishtan, Lailakhaninsky, Kuvinsky, Yaypansky, Chodaksky and 38 similar rural bazaars. And the main large urban markets were in such large cities of the valley as Kokand, Fergana, Margilan and Chust [2, p. 111-112].

There were 5 499 outlets in the okrug, of which 137 - belonged to the state, 237 - were commercial and 5 125 - were private. In the first half of 1925, the cash turnover of these outlets was 57,312 rubles: 41,505 rubles. - state retail outlets, 4 091 rub. - to commercial points and 11 716 rubles. - to the owners [5, p. 110-111].

The state of the Khojent district occupied a special place in the Uzbek SSR. According to the regionalization commission, in 1926 it was planned that the district would include: volosts of the Khojent district, Ural, Unzhinskaya, Pistakuzkaya volosts of the Samarkand region, villages Gulakandoz, Govkhan, Yangichirak, Uzbekkishlak, Dogmay and Kaznak Gulakandoz volost, part Isfara volost, Kanibadam district of Ferghana region, Asht district of Naman region and Potar village of Besharyk region [5, p. 98].

According to the official data of the Center for Zoning Commission, the Khojent district bordered on the Tashkent district in the north, in the Kokand district in the east, in the south in Kyrgyzstan, in the west with part of the Uratapa region of Tajikistan and another part of the Tashkent district.

According to official figures, the total area of the district was 5,872 square meters. versts, and the population numbered 176 565 people; population density per 1 square verst - 30 people [Ibid., p. 99]. 38% of the population (66,796 people) lived in cities, and 62% (109,759 people) - in the villages. Ethnically, the Khojent district consisted mainly of Uzbeks and Tajiks, part of Russians, Kyrgyz, Kipchaks and others. The study of the issue showed that mainly Uzbeks had a dominant position in the district. The population of the okrug in rural areas was engaged in gardening, agriculture, and cattle breeding. The peasants grew cotton, rice, corn. In Khojent and Kanibadam districts, gardening was widespread. Orchards amounted to 3997 acres of total sown area, 838 acres occupied vineyards. Every year, 770 thousand poods of various fruits, 146 thousand pounds of grapes and 484 thousand pounds of dried fruits were sent from the Khojent railway station abroad. From this we can conclude that the cultivation of crops in the district was very developed.

In agriculture, sericulture was still very well developed, and livestock husbandry was particularly developed in the mountainous regions. Livestock breeding zones are very well developed: Gozhi, Kuprikboshi and Punuk villages. Although these branches of agriculture were considered auxiliary, they played an important role in the economy. The total number of livestock in the district was about 89,005 animals, of which 7.7% were horses, 30% were cattle, and the rest were sheep and goats. The main trading center of the district was considered the city of Khojent. In addition, the main bazaars operated in the cities of Kanibadam, Isfara, Shaydon and Nizhny Ashta. In addition to them, there were secondary bazaars, for example, Pistakuz, Gulakandoz, Kamyshkurgan, etc. [5, p. 100].

The zoning commission of the Uzbek SSR, the city of Khojent was chosen as the single cultural and economic center of the district. The Center's Commission on zoning 9 volosts and 47 village councils in the district created 3 districts and 57 village councils, of which it was decided to create village councils, including 18 Uzbek, 37 Tajik and 2 for representatives of people of different nationalities [Ibid., P. 102].

According to the Center's zoning commission, Andijan district bordered Kyrgyzstan from the northeast and southeast, and the Kokand district from the west and southwest. The total area of the district was 6427 square meters. versts, it consisted of the following 12 districts: Kasansay, Yangikurgan, Shurkurgan, Naryn, Izbaskansky, Balikchinsky, Shakhrikhansky, Asakinsky, Aravansky (Markamat), Andijan, Zhalalkudusky and Kurganepinsky [6, p. 341-342]. According to information, in the district there were 866 settlements, which consisted of 130,420 households. The population was 724,397 people, of which 566,058 were considered urban residents, and 158,339 - residents of the village. 72.6% of the ethnic composition of the population was Uzbek, and the rest were Kyrgyz, Tajiks, Uighurs, Kipchaks, Karakalpaks, Russians and representatives of different nationalities. For 1 square verst accounted for 112 people. The degree of education of the population in different regions was different. According to information, it was observed that the degree of education of the rural population was inferior to the degree of education of the urban resident [7, p. 4-8].

According to official figures, there were 48 markets operating in the district, the most important of which were in Namangan and Andijan. The Asakinsky Bazaar was considered the most economically influential market. In the district there were 1 state, 237 commercial and 3 843 own outlets. In the first half of 1925, the cash turnover of these retail chains was 46 504 rubles, of which 33 628 rubles belonged to state trade, 4 091 rubles. - commercial trading enterprises and 8785 rubles. - to the owners [7, p. 4-8].

In Andijan, the railways were also built in a special way. On the territory of the district passed two railway lines. One of them began in the northeast of the Kokand district and went through the southeast of the district to Kyrgyzstan. The second direction also began in the northeast of the okrug and ended in the city of Andijan.

There were 12 stations on the territory of the okrug: Khanabad, Karasu, Kurganepinsk, Guruchmazar, Andijan II, Andijan I, Asakinskaya, Khakkulabad, Tukayskaya, Paytugskaya, Uchkurgan and Namangan [5, p. 131]. Although the city of Andijan was considered, from an economic and cultural point of view, the center of the district, from a geographical point of view, the city of Namangan was located in the center of the district. It was planned and executed by the regionalization commission to create 12 districts and 289 village councils instead of 36 volosts and 226 village councils (162 of them were Uzbeks, 16 were Kyrgyz, 17 were Kazakhs, 8 were Tajiks, 3 were Uighurs, and 1 - Kuraminty and Russians, and over 80 representatives of different nationalities).

## V. CONCLUSION

In general, the administrative and economic regionalization in Central Asia in 1926 in the Ferghana Valley was carried out in a peculiar way. And if we pay attention to the general state of the economic, social, political, cultural and other spheres of the Kokand, Andijan and Khojent districts created in the Ferghana Valley as a result of the implementation

of the regionalization policy, we can see that this region was one of the peculiar cultural, economic centers in history of Uzbekistan.

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