

The Role of The Newspaper "Turkestanskaya Pravda" In Studying the History of The Khorezm People's Soviet Socialist Republic and The Khorezm Soviet Socialist Republic

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Abstract: The article examines the importance of the Turkestanskaya Pravda newspaper in studying the history of the Khorezm People's Soviet Socialist Republic and the Khorezm Soviet Socialist Republic. The newspaper provides detailed information about the state-building of the USSR, including the adoption of the Constitution, the formation of the government structure, reforms in the judicial system, youth policy, and meetings of international importance. In particular, official appeals to combat oppression and return them to a peaceful life, as well as the opinions expressed by religious figures on the issue of adhering to Sharia, indicate that the political situation is complex.

Keywords: Newspaper, press, public life, political propaganda, ideological struggle.

Introduction: Founded in Tashkent in 1922, the newspaper Turkestanskaya Pravda became one of the most important publications of its time in Central Asia, focusing on covering the socio-political, economic, and cultural life of the region and actively used it for advertising [15]. The newspaper was initially published in Russian, which made it accessible to a wide readership, including intellectuals, civil servants, and entrepreneurs. A weekly subscription to the publication cost from 60 kopecks to 1 ruble, depending on the terms and conditions. Special discounts were provided to institutions, workers, and teachers, which contributed to its popularity. Turkestanskaya Pravda existed for several decades, becoming an important part of the Central Asian information space [15].

LITERATURE REVIEW

This newspaper covered important processes in the political and social life of the KhPSR and the KhSSR. The article attempts to express its reaction to the processes covered in this newspaper.

METHODOLOGY

Using the methods of objectivity, chronological

analysis, consistency, comparison, logical conclusion and generalization, the historical data recorded in the publications related to the topic were concluded based on the theoretical and comparative analysis.

The newspaper's issue 16, dated August 9, 1922, reported that a number of issues were considered at the All-Khorezm Congress on July 30-31, 1922: The All-Khorezm Congress appealed to the Khorezm people - "printers and copyists", urging them to return to a peaceful life by October 15. The newspaper also included a report on the economic issue, stating that the All-Khorezm Congress unanimously adopted the project to merge Ekoso and Vneshtorg into the Ministry of Trade and Industry. In addition, there are reports that the All-Khorezm Kurultai, having considered the Constitution (basic laws) of the Khmer SSR, unanimously adopted the draft Constitution, and the All-Khorezm Kurultai elected a 7-member Presidium of the Central Assembly of the Khmer SSR, appointing Abdullah Haji (an average peasant, communist) as its chairman and responsible secretary as its secretary. The elections of Ministers were held at this Kurultai, and its composition fully ensured the work of the

Presidium of the Central Election Commission [1]. The results of these elections were published in the next issue of the newspaper. In the elections to the Central Executive Committee, the All-Khorezm Kurultai (unanimously) elected 60 members and 30 candidates, more than 70 percent of whom were members of the Peasants' Union. At the end of the election, Razmat Akhun, a representative of the clergy, spoke and emphasized that not all decisions of the Kurultay contradicted Sharia [2].

We observe that the ideological struggle waged by the Bolsheviks, as in all periods, was mainly aimed at the youth. Because this is clearly stated in the press in reports and articles. For example, appeals such as "the incomparable importance of the Khorezm youth in the construction of the Soviet Republic was noted" are evidence of our opinion. The next issue of the newspaper similarly covers the opening ceremony of the Second Congress of the Khorezm Communist Youth Union, which was held on August 30, 1922, and it is mentioned that the representatives of the CPSU and the Central Executive Committee, the Council of Ministers unanimously elected Lenin, Lunacharsky and the plenipotentiary representative of the RSFSR in the country Bik as honorary chairmen of the congress. The reports note the incomparable importance of the Khorezm youth in the construction of the Soviet Republic [3].

Cultural life. On September 2, 1922, Gogol's "The Inspector General" was staged in the Khiva State Theater with explanations in Uzbek for the benefit of the population suffering from famine in Bashkortostan. The Khiva residents followed the performance with great interest. After the performance, the Khiva audience asked for a repeat performance in order to introduce the rest of the population to the work. It is reported that 150 million rubles were collected from the performance [4].

The agenda of the next meeting of the Khorezm Central Executive Committee is published in the January 1, 1922 issue of the newspaper. On January 3, the 2nd session of the Khorezm Central Executive Committee opens. The Criminal Code, developed in accordance with the RSFSR Code and relevant to the conditions of Khorezm, the projects for the establishment of Gostorg and Gosbank, and the State Budget are submitted for approval by the session. Special attention is paid to the development of cotton growing [5]. In the economy of the USSR, which is based on agriculture, the issue of cotton growing was one of the main issues on the agenda. The next issue of the newspaper on July 24 reported the following at the height of the cotton harvest: "According to local elders, the cotton harvest in Khorezm will yield 500-600 wagons. Its purchase for

the textile industry is carried out in two ways: through a cooperative and the Cotton Committee. Intensive preparations are underway in Khorezm for the upcoming cotton harvest. The cotton ginning plant has been leased from the state for a period of 10 years. Before the war, the plant produced up to 2,000 pounds of products per day. Work has begun on the repair and arrangement of the plant. There is full confidence that the plant will produce up to 300 pounds of products per day in the coming season. In the last days of July, 3,000 pounds of cotton will be sent to Moscow. From the sale of this cotton, the plant will purchase machine parts that are not in stock and goods necessary for Khorezm. It is proposed to conclude a contract with the Cotton Committee for the purchase of 50-100 thousand pounds [6]. At this point, if we dwell on cooperative organizations in Khorezm, the news in the newspaper under consideration will also be taken as a basis. In particular, in the issue of August 5, 1923, it is noted that the Khorezm Cooperative Organization is carrying out intensive restructuring of its apparatus in accordance with the instructions of the First Central Asian Economic Conference, in order to involve the population in the development of cooperation in the Republic of Khorezm and create a body to manage cooperative work, the "Central Khiva" cooperative was reorganized into the Khorezm Association of Mixed Consumer Societies, and the Khiva branch of the former Central Cooperative was transformed into the Central Khiva Workers' Cooperative, serving the needs of the city of Khiva and the surrounding craft districts [7].

In general, as stated in this message, the local branches of the Central Cooperative are being transformed into independent district peasant consumer societies that perform mixed functions (consumer, agricultural, and others). The real organization of the population in cooperatives has already begun, and the entrance fee for members of the Central Workers' Cooperative is set at 2 rubles 50 kopecks in gold, and for peasants who are members of consumer societies - 2 poods of wheat. At the same time, the Economic Council of the Khorezm Republic allocated 25 thousand rubles to the cooperative on a long-term loan basis, and this capital has already been put into circulation. Work has begun on organizing individual craftsmen and artisans into artels. Preparations are underway for the purchase of future cotton and leather crops. In April of this year, the cooperative allocated 4,000 poods of cotton to farmers for planting cotton, strengthening the necessary relations. The Khorezm cooperative is still very young. By combining the efforts of the masses, it will undoubtedly strengthen in the near future and become a powerful organization. It is reported that it is hoped

that special local cooperative courses will soon be organized for the training of cooperative members and technical staff for cooperatives in Turkestan, Khorezm and Bukhara. In this issue of the newspaper, on the subject of agricultural cooperatives, the Agricultural Bank has launched new resources to support agriculture in the Republic of Khorezm. Agricultural cooperatives are currently being established only in Tortkul. Work in the Republic of Khorezm, especially during its organizational period, is fraught with significant difficulties. Khorezm until recently was a completely deserted land in terms of conducting cooperative work in the villages. There was neither a single cooperative organization nor a united partnership. The reluctance of the population of the republic to accept the idea of credit and loan partnerships explains why they were not established until recently [10].

The newspaper "Turketanskaya Pravda" also covered political and legal issues, that is, it was not limited to socio-economic news. That is, the newspaper reports that on August 8, 1923, at a meeting of tribal chiefs in the Takhtabazar fortress, a peace treaty was solemnly concluded between all tribes, signed by 15 chiefs, in which Junayid Khan was declared an enemy of the Turkmen people and the Soviet government. At the meeting, the Khorezm government made a final appeal to Junayid's horsemen, calling on them to return to their homes of their own free will, and decided to confiscate the lands belonging to Junayid and the horsemen who remained with him and distribute them to the poor [8].

The following is reported in the newspaper issues we are considering about the judicial reform carried out in the KhPSR. The judicial and legal reform carried out by the Third All-Khorezm Congress established the following status, on the basis of which there is now a people's court in Khorezm.

In this case, the people's court consists of three members: the chairman, deputy chairman and a member of the court. The entire republic is divided into 23 judicial districts, which correspond to the number of people's courts subordinate to the Khorezm People's Minister of Justice. The internal legal framework of the court remained unchanged. New criminal and civil codes have not been issued, and the courts continue to operate on the basis of Sharia law as before. In addition to organizational formalization, the reform also affected the financial situation of the people's courts. The court is not supported by the state. It exists at the expense of income from various operations, for example, from the division of property. For each such transaction, one fortieth of the total amount is collected, one fifth goes to the maintenance of the

court, and the rest goes to the state treasury. This shows that while state administration is subordinated to secular norms, the judicial system is built on religious, that is, poetic norms, that is, in addition to the state administration apparatus, shortcomings are also evident in the judicial system [9].

In order to strengthen political propaganda, the Central House of Education was opened, uniting institutions outside the central school. A schedule of lectures and classes was developed for science, political, economic, artistic, and historical circles, and evening political courses were organized for party committee management staff [10]. These courses were supposed to serve to expand the sphere of influence of political views and the ideology of communism.

On October 25, 1923, in the next issue of the newspaper "Turkestanskaya Pravda", the All-Khorezm Kurultai adopted a decision on October 20 to rename the Khorezm Soviet People's Republic to the Khorezm Socialist Soviet Republic. It was also decided to make some amendments to the Constitution regarding the right to vote. Endowment lands were left at the disposal of the clergy, but a single agricultural tax was levied on them, along with other lands. A number of practical normative documents were adopted on the issue of land, on the provision of water to Turkmen lands.

That night, after four days of work, the Kurultay adjourned after the elections to the Khorezm Central Executive Committee. On October 21, the first session of the Khorezm Central Executive Committee and the election of the government were held, reports the newspaper we are analyzing [11].

The text of the Protocol of the Central Asian Economic Conference was published in the newspaper, which focused on issues such as irrigation, a credit program. It was noted that one of the main issues for future work is the regulation of irrigation. The Khorezm irrigation system has a slightly different meaning and this issue is put in a different context than in Bukhara and Turkestan. There are huge reserves of unirrigated lands and unused irrigated areas, but the imperfection of the irrigation system using the drip irrigation method, which increases the labor intensity of agriculture (it was possible to clean the ditches almost 100 percent and irrigate the entire area), is noted. Up to 200 heads of cattle are required for irrigation, and 39 out of 100 farms are horseless farms, such dependence of peasant farms on livestock, and the labor-intensive nature of the irrigation system forced us to approach the issue of irrigation from a different perspective. The transition to a mechanical method in the irrigation system is considered an urgent issue, and it was found that

irrigation costs 83 ts, and mechanical irrigation costs 49 ts.

The agricultural credit program, to which the Republic of Khorezm allocated 500 thousand rubles from its meager funds, is currently not being expanded to the extent required by the Republic of Khorezm. In total, 23 farms have been established and about 210,000 rubles of gold have been extracted. Consequently, the sum allocated to Khorezm did not reach Khorezm in full, and the Central Asian Economic Council also did not fulfill its debt obligations on this issue, but nevertheless, the Republic of Khorezm considers it necessary to further develop agricultural credit partnerships. For this purpose, the Council allocates up to 500 thousand rubles for lending to the regions of Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan, as well as areas engaged in livestock breeding, subject to full investment, and it is justified by the fact that this capital should be fully directed to the Republic of Khorezm to restore the destroyed peasant farms. The Council notes that trade credit for Khorezm is absent, and our future plan should be based on attracting 2-3 million soums to Khorezm for trade, only then can the purchase of all rotten raw materials be completed.

The future plans of the council are also mentioned in the newspaper, in which it is necessary to focus the state trade of Khorezm on the export of raw materials to Russia through a clear plan and coordinate this plan with all state trade institutions of other republics located in Khorezm. We cannot rely only on agricultural credit, we must focus on increasing the purchasing power of the peasant population. This can be achieved by exporting raw materials from us and importing manufactured products. Therefore, if we draw up an export-import plan and achieve coordination between all trade bodies, we will fully implement this work. It was noted that savings were achieved by solving the issue of price ratios, and that the savings were largely due to the high freight that Khorezm had to pay for the delivery of goods, but the lack of railway transport and the improper organization of the Amu Darya flotilla meant that freight rates for transporting goods to Khorezm were very high, and therefore the Khorezm Republic should urgently consider the issue of reducing these rates, for this reason this issue was so urgent for the Council that it was impossible to achieve positive economic results without a corresponding reduction in freight rates [12].

In the Khorezm Republic, excluding the old-style school, the number of teachers at present is 40. A total of more than 2,600 students study in these schools. However, the 1923-24 academic year was more or less satisfactory in these schools. There was no serious shortage of teachers. In addition to the existing

teachers in Khorezm, about 20 more teachers were brought from neighboring republics. The Ministry of Education is taking measures to provide Khorezm with its own teachers: a pedagogical technical school operates in Khiva, where up to 100 students study. In addition, summer pedagogical courses will soon be opened to improve the knowledge of teachers.

Preschool education is still quite weak, there are not enough resources. However, in the winter, one experimental kindergarten was opened in Khiva. This gave good results, and now it is planned to open kindergartens in other cities. Then the Ministry of Education launched a music school for the local population, where up to 100 students study. This school meets all the expectations placed on it. In the future, this unique music school needs to be further expanded and properly equipped. However, the eradication of illiteracy is far from over. There are only 15 literacy schools in the entire Republic of Khorezm. This is, of course, very few. The main problem in this is the lack of funds. According to the budget, the Ministry of Education was supposed to allocate 40 percent of state revenues in the last academic year. However, since taxes were not fully collected, this 40% was a very insignificant figure. The increase in funds allocated in 1924 allowed to put these works in order [13].

On November 1, 1924, the V All-Khorezm Congress of Soviets was solemnly opened. At it, a number of workers were awarded the Order of the Banner of Labor of Khorezm: the responsible secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Khorezm Khonsuvarov; Plenipotentiary representative Gorodetsky, Sary Muldayev, the Inspector of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspection, the Inspector of the National Economy Mamedov, and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Supervisors Tursun Khojayev. The orders were presented by the Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of Khorezm Boltayev, who noted the great contribution of the awardees to the elimination of Junaid Khan's fraud. The congress began its work, and first of all, a report was heard by the Chairman of the Council of Supervisors Nazarov. At this congress, a resolution on National Demarcation was adopted, according to which the Uzbeks, Turkmens, and Karakalpaks of the Republic of Khorezm were given the right to secede from the Republic of Khorezm and join their own national republics and autonomous regions [14].

CONCLUSIONS

The newspaper "Turkestanskaya Pravda", published in Tashkent in 1922–1923, served as an important source of information that widely covered the political, economic and cultural life of Central Asia, in particular,

the Khorezm People's Socialist Republic. The article examines the importance of the *Turkestanskaya Pravda* newspaper in studying the history of the Khorezm People's Soviet Socialist Republic and the Khorezm Soviet Socialist Republic. The newspaper provides detailed information about the state-building of the USSR, including the adoption of the Constitution, the formation of the government structure, reforms in the judicial system, youth policy, and meetings of international importance. In particular, official appeals to combat oppression and return them to a peaceful life, as well as the opinions expressed by religious figures on the issue of adhering to Sharia, indicate that the political situation is complex.

Economically, the newspaper covered the development of cotton growing in Khorezm, the restoration of factory activity, cotton exports and the introduction of a barter-based trade system. The Khorezm cooperative movement entered a new stage, important steps were taken to unite artisans into artels, establish a credit and loan system, and organize societies with the participation of peasants. The financing of cooperatives was also carried out not by the state, but on the basis of internal resources - entrance fees, product exchange and investment.

In the cultural and educational sphere, theatrical art, in particular, the staging of Gogol's "The Inspector General", the allocation of the proceeds to help those affected by the famine in Bashkortostan, and the opening of the Central Educational House are noteworthy. The newspaper reported on the role of young people in the construction of the republic, the organization of events, circles and political courses aimed at increasing their political activity.

The newspaper also reflected the differences between the secular system of governance in the USSR and the religiously based judicial and legal practice. The People's Court, although it continued to operate on the basis of Sharia, was organizationally and financially independent, but poorly supported.

In general, the newspaper "Turkestanskaya Pravda" was an important witness to historical processes, covering the political, economic and cultural reforms characteristic of the transitional period of the USSR. Through it, one can form a scientifically based idea of many issues, such as the organizational formation of the USSR, the cooperative movement, youth and cultural policy, the barter-based nature of economic policy, and the religious and legal features of the judicial system.

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