**VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16** 

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5.993) (2022: 6.015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 





Website: https://theusajournals. com/index.php/ajsshr

Copyright: Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the creative commons attributes 4.0 licence.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE UZBEK SCRIPT CYRILLIC ALPHABET AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE STATE LANGUAGE IN USSR

Submission Date: October 01, 2022, Accepted Date: October 06, 2022,

Published Date: October 27, 2022

Crossref doi: https://doi.org/10.37547/ajsshr/Volume02lssue10-03

Alisher M. Egamberdiyev Student National University Of Uzbekistan

#### **ABSTRACT**

This article describes the issue of the Uzbek script in the 20-30s of the 20th century, including the history of the introduction of the Uzbek script based on the Cyrillic alphabet. In addition, the purpose, essence and consequences of the language policy implemented by the Soviet authorities in the Uzbekistan SSR are highlighted. National languages, which are one of the main signs of the existence of the nation in the USSR, including the gradual transformation of the Uzbek language into a secondary language, the strengthening of the process of Russification, and the factors that caused the artificial increase in the number of illiterate people, are given.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Uzbek language, Russian language, language policy, Russification, alphabet, old Uzbek script, Latin alphabet, Cyrillic alphabet.

#### INTRODUCTION

In the history of statehood, the gradual development of writing-alphabetic forms is directly related to the development of culture. Five writing systems are particularly widespread on earth today. According to

VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

the data, these scripts are placed in the following order according to the number of people using them: Latin script - 30 percent of the world's population uses it; Chinese writing is used by 25% of the world's population; Indian writing is used by about 20% of the world's population; Arabic writing is used by about 10 percent of the population; Slavic-Cyrillic script is used by about 10 percent of the world's population. All other writing systems (Greek, Ethiopic, Hebrew, Georgian, Armenian, etc.) are used by only about 5% of the world's population.

#### THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

The increasing population of the earth, as well as in the history of the Uzbek statehood, which has a past of three thousand years, our people used a number of records. During the last thousand years of our history, Uzbek writings created on the basis of Arabic, Latin and Cyrillic alphabets served for the literacy of our people. For example, in the early years of the last colonial period, the old Uzbek writing based on the Arabic alphabet continued to be used, and from 1929, Uzbek writing based on the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets was implemented. In this process, the Cyrillicization process carried out for political purposes, the compulsory nature of teaching the Russian language, and the measures aimed at lowering the status of the local language had a negative impact on the development of the Uzbek language.

It is known that the language policy of the Soviet authorities was designed to make the native population illiterate, to deprive them of their age-old values, to educate them in the spirit of Soviet culture, and to implement the policy of Russification. The Soviet government started to fundamentally reform the old Uzbek script based on the Arabic alphabet in order to make the education system and the education of the new generation fully subject to its will. After Islam entered the region, the works created in our country for centuries were written in the old Uzbek language of the Arabic alphabet. In 1921-1922, Arabic spelling was first reformed and simplified. Then the issue of latinization of the Uzbek script was put on the agenda. From the mid-1920s, in newspapers and magazines of Uzbekistan, on the radio, from the stages of theaters,

The replacement of the old Uzbek script based on the Arabic alphabet with the Uzbek script based on the Latin alphabet was carried out gradually. In 1926, by the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek SSR, the Central Commission for Latinization of the Uzbek alphabet was established. Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek SSR Yuldash Okhunboboyev was appointed as the chairman of this commission. After some time, the district offices of the Central Commission were also formed. Mathematician Tashmuhammad Qori-Niyazi, who later became the first president of the Academy

VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

of Sciences of Uzbekistan, actively participated in the transition from the Arabic alphabet to the Latinized Uzbek alphabet.

In the 1926-1927 academic year, courses were organized to prepare teachers who teach on the basis of the new alphabet. Starting from the 1928-1929 academic year, hours were allocated for studying the Latin alphabet in primary and secondary schools in the Uzbek SSR, and lessons were organized, and textbooks based on the new alphabet were created. By the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek SSR, from December 1, 1929, the Uzbek writing based on the Arabic spelling was terminated and switched to the Latin script. Starting from the 1929-1930 school year, all types of schools across the republic switched to the Latin alphabet. Since then, work has been started on the basis of the new alphabet in all branches of public education. All over Uzbekistan, central, district, in the districts and villages, from the beginning of 1930, it was planned to carry out work in the Uzbek alphabet based on the Latin script [2, 380-381]. Before that, for more than a thousand years, our ancestors used the Arabic script.

The process of using the Uzbek alphabet based on the Latin script lasted only one year. The large sums of money spent on latinizing the script were wasted. Russification, which later rose to the level of state policy, required the introduction of the Cyrillic alphabet, and the period of Latinization was only an intermediate stage in the Russification policy of the Bolshevik regime. In the 20s of the last century, it was too early to talk about the transition to the Cyrillic alphabet, because the mature representatives of the national intellectuals who fought to preserve the history and culture of their people were still alive. The repressions of the 1920s and 1930s dramatically changed the landscape and destroyed the population capable of active ideological opposition. Those who considered the Latin alphabet "the alphabet of the world communist society" Those who tried to Latinize the alphabet of the peoples who used the Cyrillic script began to be persecuted. It mainly affected the peoples of the North. In the state, a two-sided view was formed that the transition from Arabic to Latin is good, but the transition from Cyrillic to Latin is bad [3, 100-101].

The next step was the transition of most of the languages of the former USSR to the Cyrillic alphabet. Until the 1930s, national languages were used in the republics along with the Russian language, and from the 30s, the Russian language began to be given priority. Russian language propaganda has intensified everywhere. A necessary condition for introducing the Cyrillic alphabet and changing the status of the Russian language throughout the USSR is the resolution of March 13, 1938 of the Soviet of People's Commissars of the USSR and the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks "The compulsory teaching of the Russian language in the schools of the

VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

national republics and regions is correct." about" was the decision. After that, On March 19, 1938, the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan adopted a decision "On teaching the Russian language in Uzbek and other non-Russianspeaking schools of the Uzbek SSR." accepted. From this year, hours were allocated to the teaching of the Russian language in national republics at the expense of indigenous languages [4, 88]. National languages, which are one of the main symbols of the nation's existence, were gradually turned into secondary languages.

The chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR A. Abdurakhmanov, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Usman Yusupov came up with mandatory initiatives for the transition from the Latin alphabet to the Cyrillic alphabet. In a letter written by them to Joseph Stalin on October 7, 1939, it is stated that among the workers, members of the collective economy and intellectuals in Uzbekistan, there was a movement to switch from the Latinized alphabet to the Uzbek script based on the Cyrillic alphabet, since 1940 it was said that it was possible to switch to a new alphabet for two years, and Stalin was asked for permission to start work on the switch to a new alphabet.

On December 14, 1939, the Central Committee of the All-Union Bolshevik Communist Party adopted a decision "to transfer the Uzbek script from the Latinized alphabet to the Russian alphabet." The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan was assigned the task of organizing a government commission under the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR for the practical guidance of the planned measures for the transition to alphabet [5, 615]. The government commission on the reform of the Uzbek script was established under the leadership of Tashmuhammad Qori-Niyazi, the deputy chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR.

At the third session of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR on May 8, 1940, mathematician Tashmuhammad Qori-Niyazi gave a lecture on the transition from the Latin script to the Cyrillic-based Uzbek script [6, 393]. Academician Tashmuhammad Qori-Niyazi, who has already completed ten years since the transition from the Arabic alphabet to the Latinized alphabet, proved the "advantage" and "historical importance" of the transition to the Latinized alphabet compared to the Arabic alphabet, now Cyril "justified" the "superiority" of the alphabet over the Latinized alphabet. The law "On transfer of Uzbek script from latinized alphabet to new alphabet based on Russian graphics" was adopted during the session.

13

VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

According to the law, all people's commissariats and republican institutions located in the territory of the Uzbek SSR were obliged to transfer the work in their subordinate state institutions, public organizations and periodicals to the new alphabet starting from July 1, 1940. The People's Commissariat of Education of the Uzbek SSR and the regional executive committees of the Soviets of Workers' Deputies of the Uzbek SSR were tasked with transferring education to the new Uzbek alphabet from September 1, 1940. The Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR entrusted all people's commissariats, republican institutions, regional executive committees of the Soviets of Workers' Deputies of the Uzbek SSR with the transition from the Latinized alphabet to the Cyrillic alphabet within two years. Committed to completion by January 1, 1942. In addition to Uzbekistan, the Central Asian republics and Azerbaijan were also transferred to Russian graphics. The transition to the Cyrillic script intensified the Russification process.

In 1940, during the transition to the alphabet based on Cyrillic graphics, the letters "щ", "ы" were removed from this script and the letters "y", "k", "f", "x" were added. However, in order to implement the unscientific orthographic rule that it is necessary to write the acquired words in the Russian language as they are, special characters such as "ъ", "ь" were also included in the alphabet. Such actions, which were used only to change the Uzbek script, caused negative

consequences for the future fate and prospects of the public education of the republic. Since 1939, books in the Cyrillic alphabet began to be printed in the Uzbek SSR [7, 248]. As a result, the Uzbek people were cut off from artistic, scientific, pedagogical and educational literature published in 1929-1939.

The hasty replacement of Latin graphics with Cyrillic had a negative impact on the growth of the level of education of the population of Uzbekistan and the development of the Uzbek language. It caused an artificial increase in the number of illiterates. He deprived our people of using the written monuments left by their ancestors. As a result, he was deprived of the opportunity to be nourished by the cultural heritage created by our great-grandfathers. They did not allow us to popularize the cultural heritage left by our ancestors, to evaluate it honestly [8, 3]. The saddest thing is that the spiritual life has been completely Russified, which has led to the limitation of Uzbek language opportunities everywhere. In this way, no objections of representatives of the national intelligentsia were taken into account.

According to the autobiography of the translator Abdukahhor Iminov, who worked for many years at the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, he noted that the conversion of the Arabic alphabet to Latin and later to Cyrillic at the All-Union "Speech Culture Conference" held in the hall of the Presidium of the Academy Academician Tashmuhammad Qari-

VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

Niyazi, one of the initiators, referring to the replacement of the Arabic alphabet with the Latin alphabet first, and then with the Cyrillic alphabet, said: "I have been to all the continents of the world. When I went to England, I told them that their alphabet does not correspond to the sounds of the language, that's why there is a saying among the people: "Liverpool is written, Manchester is read" easy but the next generation will not be able to use the sources of literature written until today," he said. "The same thing happened in China. When I asked why they did not easily switch to an alphabet based on the sounds of the language instead of thousands and thousands of hieroglyphs, they said, like the English, that the next generation would be cut off from historical sources" [9, 170-171].

#### CONCLUSION

In short, like a number of nations in the USSR, the transfer of the writing of the Uzbek people from the Arabic alphabet to the Latinized alphabet, and then to the Cyrillic alphabet, caused negative consequences in the national life. The Uzbek people, who have been using the old Uzbek script based on the Arabic alphabet for almost a thousand years, switched to using the Latin script at the end of the 20s of the last century. The reform, on the one hand, made it easier for the masses to acquire literacy, but on the other hand, it caused the young generation to disconnect from their spiritual roots, the history and culture

created by the Arabic alphabet over the centuries. The introduction of the Latin alphabet had a positive effect on the Turkic peoples and could increase their cooperation with Western civilization to a certain extent. For this reason, the ruling regime saw Latinization as a step towards the transition to the Cyrillic alphabet, which was linked to colonial interests. The transition to the Cyrillic alphabet led to the complete disconnection of the Uzbek people from their spiritual sources, national values and culture with a long past. The Soviet state aimed to rapidly develop the policy of Russification by means of the Cyrillic alphabet, to create a single "Soviet nation".

#### **REFERENCES**

- Abdullaeva N.B. Aesthetic features of modern Uzbek press design (magazines as an example). Dissertation written for the degree of candidate of philosophy. - Tashkent, 2010. p. 69.
- 2. Jorayev N., Karimov Sh. History of Uzbekistan: Uzbekistan during Soviet colonialism. The second book. - Tashkent: Sharq, 2011. p. 380-381.
- 3. Asatova G.R. Language policy in Uzbekistan in the 20th century: essence, consequences and lessons. Dissertation for the degree of candidate of historical sciences. - Tashkent, 2004. S. 100-101.
- 4. Musaev O.R. Socio-philosophical features of the development of inter-ethnic relations in Uzbekistan. Dissertation written for the Doctor of

**VOLUME 02 ISSUE 10 Pages: 10-16** 

SJIF IMPACT FACTOR (2021: 5. 993) (2022: 6. 015)

OCLC - 1121105677 METADATA IF - 5.968

















**Publisher: Oscar Publishing Services** 

Science degree in philosophy. - Tashkent, 2017. p. 88.

- The CPSU and the Soviet government about Uzbekistan. Collection of Documents (1925–1970). - Tashkent: Uzbekistan, 1972. S. 615.
- 6. New history of Uzbekistan. Three volumes. The second book. Uzbekistan during the period of Soviet colonialism // Editors: M. Joraev, R. Nurullin, S. Kamolov et al.; Editorial board: A. Azizkho'jaev (chairman) and others. - Tashkent: Sharq, 2000. p. 393.
- 7. Abduazizova N.A. History of national journalism (genesis and evolution). In 2 volumes. Volume I. -Tashkent: Sharq, 2012. P. 248.
- Nurmonov A. History of Uzbek linguistics. Tashkent: Uzbekistan, 2002. p. 3.
- Rakhimova Sh.P. Linguistic features of translating English idiomatic expressions into Uzbek. Dissertation written for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Philology. - Tashkent, 2019. p. 170-171.