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## REGARDING THE TRAINING OF JURIDICAL PERSONNEL IN THE SOVIET ERA (AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN TECHNICAL SCHOOL OF LAW, 1929-1930)

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### ABSTRACT

From the very first days when the Soviet state established its rule in Central Asia, it tried to maintain its dominance in state and social management and to strengthen its position by mobilizing all the possibilities. Especially in the process of training necessary employees for state administration from representatives of the local nationality, the main attention was paid to the issue of political maturity of the personnel being trained. Selection of students for the educational institution did not take into account their knowledge and potential, but above all, the social origin, political level, and consciousness of the candidates, and the questions as they conformed to the party or not prevailed. The issue of ideological training of the graduates was given great importance, and their professional potential and professional qualifications were relegated to the next place. Every graduate had to become a loyal soldier, a reliable defender of party ideas. We can consider the specific one-sided policy implemented in educational institutions in the example of personnel training in the late 1920s and early 1930s as an example of the Central Asian Technical College of Law.

### KEYWORDS

Administrative-command system, communist party, ideology, Central Asian Law Technical School, justice, court, prosecutor's office, teacher, listener, law specialist, short-term course.

### INTRODUCTION

Courses under the Central Executive Council and the People's Commissariat of Justice in order to strengthen the training of lawyers from representatives of the local nationalities at the national

level were transformed into the Central Asian Technical College of Law by the Council of People's Commissars of Uzbekistan on September 8, 1928[1]. In contrast to the law course, the training period in the technical

school was planned to be 4 years, 1 year of training on general subjects and 3 years of training on special subjects related to the specialty. However, it was also envisaged that 2 years would be allocated for mastering general subjects depending on the level of knowledge of the students to be admitted[2].

### THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

By establishing this educational institution, the Soviet authorities planned to train specialists of local nationalities for the socio-economic life, justice and prosecutor's offices of Central Asian republics. Therefore, 62% of the 200 people to be admitted in the 1928-1929 academic year were from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, 28% from Kazakhstan and Karakalpakstan, and 10% from Kyrgyzstan as listeners[3]. It was also decided that 140 more people would be admitted to two training groups. It should be noted here that this educational institution was the only educational institution opened to positively solve the problem of personnel insufficiency in the courts and prosecutor's offices of the Central Asian republics, especially the shortage of experts from local nationalities. Because during this period, although the training of lawyers was started at the Faculty of Sociology of the State University of Central Asia (now the National University of Uzbekistan), but for certain reasons, not a single graduate from representatives of the local nationality was produced. In the historical document related to the activities of the technical school, on November 23, 1929, the director of the Central Asian Legal Technical School, Tursunkhodjaev Muborakhodja, and the People's Commissariat of Education of the Kyrgyz ASSR, Vladimir Alexandrovich Vinogradov, the permanent representative of the Kyrgyz ASSR in Central Asia, mentioned that an agreement was signed on the training of 21 people sent to the technical school from the Kyrgyz ASSR for one year of the period.

According to this document, the Central Asian Technical School of Law undertook to "provide 21 Kyrgyz students with textbooks, study guides, meals from a common pot or student kitchen, summer and winter clothes, and a dormitory, and also to provide 21 students with 10 soums per month for their small expenses"[4]. The Kyrgyz Education Commissariat undertook to transfer 16,800 soums for one-year education of 21 students, 800 soums for each student, to the account of the technical school.

Since the establishment of the Technical College, the Council of People's Commissars of the Republic and the Council of People's Commissars of Justice did not pay enough attention to the activities of this educational institution, so this institution started its activities with many difficulties. When accepting trainees for the technical school, the Communist Party gave strict instructions on the selection of trainees based on its political demands. In particular, in one of the given instructions, the followings were mentioned "...a/. in the upcoming admission process, the admissions commission should select the listeners at an excellent level, especially, the main attention should be paid to their class affiliation; b/. to constantly "cleanse" students of social and ideological foreign elements"[5]. The main purpose of the Soviet leadership issuing such instructions was to artificially bring the representatives of the working class and the peasantry closer to the society and state management based on their social origin, especially to directly use their part incapable of free thinking in the implementation of administrative-command-based management. Because, in the eyes of the communist party, the representatives of the above class should be considered as the main decision-making force of political changes implemented by the party in the life of the society. The Communist Party, which strongly adhered to the theory of class, gave strict instructions

to expand the ranks of the Communists by conducting various political-ideological activities among the trainees during the study period[6]. Along with this, the party promoted communistic requirements when selecting the teachers who were going to teach the listeners of technical school and emphasizes their “being ideologically loyal and skillful” to be important. The following requirements were the main criteria when accepting documents to the technical school: first of all, "workers and peasants, poor peasants and their children, members of the Communist Party and the Komsomol organization... the political structure of the Red Army, Navy and USPD employees, and their children"[7] had to undergo a "political examination" by local party organizations and be sent to study. In the second place, "children of hard-working intellectuals, clerks, craftsmen"[8] acceptance was determined. The People's Commissariat of Justice sent a circular letter No. 95 to district courts and prosecutors on August 1, 1930, informing about the admission of the technical school in the 1930-1931 academic years. In the content of the letter, "the People's Commissariat of Justice paid special attention to the need to carefully sort the trainees by class, to select people whose social origin, class ideology, behavior and conscientiousness were suitable for the performance of the duties assigned to justice officials for the technical school"[9] as the main conditions of the upcoming admission process.

The term of study at the technical school was 3 years, except for the preparatory course, and the applicant had to be between 18 and 28 years old and had to "know how to read and write, be able to perform four arithmetic operations and social studies"[10]. Even after the trainees were admitted to the technical school, the occurrence of various problems had a negative impact on the start of the training process within the specified period. The fact that the Technical College did not have its own separate building, and the

lack of classrooms for classes made the conditions in the institution even worse. The presence of some inconveniences, such as the above, in the late-started educational processes had a direct impact on the decrease in the rate of study in the technical school. For example, after a number of practical efforts, the training process at the technical school began on October 1, 1930, but not long after that, on October 14, the training at the technical school was stopped, and all trainees were mobilized for harvesting to collect raw cotton[11]. As a result, students were not able to continue classes at the technical school until December 1. It was mentioned that "insufficiency of teachers" in educational processes at the technical school even when training sessions began[12] and that the issue of teachers in the main specialty subjects was in a difficult situation. The fact that existing teachers often did not come to classes made the situation more and more difficult. One of the main problems was the absence of manuals and textbooks for many subjects in this educational institution, which was mainly intended to train lawyers from representatives of the local nationality, and the worst was "the lack of a textbook in Uzbek for jurisprudence"[13] did not allow quality organization of the educational process. In addition, due to the fact that higher organizations were neglecting the activities of the technical school, and due to the fact that the general leadership was not properly established, the educational work in this educational institution was not organized at the required level. In the academic year 1929-1930, when the educational activities of the technical school were inspected, it was found that and noted in the inspector's report that "the People's Commissariat of Justice did not control the implementation of the curriculum, preparations for the 1931-1932 academic year were in an unsatisfactory state, that is, there was no curriculum and program, there were no teachers of special subjects, 20% of students were studying in the

same course for 2 years, the teacher of Uzbek changed 5 times, the teacher of citizenship law changed 5 times, the teacher on the history of class struggle changed 6 times, at the same time there was no permanent director"[14]. In particular, the absence of a permanent, strict leader in the life of the technical school or the frequent departure of the management on business trips with various tasks and orders from higher organizations had a direct negative impact on the educational process. As a result of the lack of appointment of a suitable, experienced, and capable head of the technical school, "the director of the technical school was changed 5 times in 8 months"[15]. The situation reached such a level that Dadakhan Turdiev, who was a student of the educational institution, performed the duties of director for a certain period of time while studying at the technical school[16]. Although one of the main problems was the lack of knowledgeable and qualified specialist teachers in the country of education, there were "class and ideological alien elements" among the teachers[17] mentioned in one of the sources. In the same source, according to the general evaluation of the teachers working in the institution of learning, it was highlighted that "the issue of teachers was in a tragic situation, there were no qualified specialist teachers in the technical school"[18]. In another source about the activities of the technical school, it was mentioned that the management of the technical school allows political shortcomings even in the formation of the teaching staff, and the opinion was expressed that "the directorate of the technical school accepted social aliens, despite having the opportunity to choose teachers from communists"[19]. In the next place, the above ideas were continued and a suggestion was made regarding the teaching team, "revision of the teaching staff, elimination of social alien elements and communistization of the teaching staff"[20]. Due to the existence of such various

problems in the organization of the educational institution in the life of the educational institution, the lessons specified in the curriculum were performed to 58.8% in the 1930-1931 academic year[21] and performed to 64% in the academic year 1931-32[22].

The fact that the People's Commissariat of Justice did not pay enough attention to the work of the technical school, the lack of mutual solidarity among the team members of the institution had a negative impact on the general situation. On January 8, 1932, Tursunmukhamedov, who studied the activities of the technical school, wrote to the People's Commissariat of Justice about this, citing a number of shortcomings and at the end of the document, he stated "if the situation is not changed, the life of the technical school may remain in a bad state"[23]. The director of the technical school S. Ibragimov in his report to the commissariat on March 13, 1932, cited a number of problems related to educational and organizational affairs and the life of the technical school, asking the management to be given instructions to "improve the situation at the technical school"[24].

In the late 1920s, the general "cleansing" of the country's administration by the ruling party in the law enforcement system put the activity of this sector in a very vulnerable situation. As a result of these "cleansing"s, filling the place of that dismissed unreliable employees with ideologically reliable specialists was carried out. For this reason, as in other courses and educational institutions, according to the requirements of the existing conditions, the students of the Central Asian Technical School of Law were sent to work in the Soviet government offices before the end of their studies. 16 people from the same graduates[25] received a license to operate in the judicial system On January 5, 1932. According to the source, all of these graduates, who were

representatives of the local nation, were members of the party and the Komsomol organization, and were members of poor families of poor social origin. We can witness to the above mentioned picture in the group of 14 people who got a license on April 1, 1932[26], the group of 20 people[27] on May 1. In addition, many ideologically trained legal experts were constantly sent to various regions of the republic to protect the communist legislation and strengthen the interests of the Soviet state by the 2-month "retraining of judicial officers" courses and "top-down" courses organized by the technical school.

By general analysis of the data about the students who studied at the Central Asian Law Technical College during these years, we can get a certain idea about the essence of the unilateral policy carried out by the Soviet state[28]. If we pay attention to the information in the given table, we can see that the majority of the students gathered from representatives of the local nation were members of the party and the Komsomol organization. Even if we approach the formation of students from a social point of view, we can observe that most of them belong to the class of workers and peasants.

## CONCLUSION

The Soviet state, in training specialists in various fields, focused on the political preparation of graduates, on the issue of forming supporters of the policies carried out by the Communist Party. For this reason, efforts were made to accept students to the educational center and to carry out educational activities without deviating from the main goals. In the organization of educational work, creation of science programs, the structure of the composition of teachers and pedagogues, party requirements were strictly observed, since the party could carry out its violent, administrative-command-based policy towards the

common people only through its representatives who diligently serve it.

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