

Extensive Development Of Chemical Production In Uzbekistan And Its Consequences

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Abstract: The article examines the development of the chemical industry in Uzbekistan during the Soviet period, highlighting the industries serving cotton growing, the Stakhanovite movement, and the impact of repressions. In addition, based on sources, a historical analysis of the economic and environmental consequences of extensive development is carried out.

Keywords: Chemical industry of Uzbekistan, Stakhanovite movement, socialist competition, repressions, cotton growing, extensive development, industrialization, economic policy, environmental problems.

Introduction: The issue of studying the processes of extensive development of the chemical industry in Uzbekistan and its economic, social and environmental consequences is still relevant today. The industrialization policy implemented during the Soviet era led to the forced specialization and one-sided development of local industrial sectors. In particular, the rapid growth of chemical production serving the cotton monoculture limited the processes of economic diversification, negatively affected environmental degradation and demographic balance.

The scientific significance of this topic is that by analyzing the consequences of a raw material-oriented economy in an extensive development model from the perspective of source studies and historiography, it is possible to develop theoretical conclusions and practical recommendations for modern sustainable development strategies. Therefore, the topic is not only of historical importance, but also of great scientific and practical value for modern economic policy and environmental sustainability issues.

Research: The issue of the development of the chemical industry in Uzbekistan has been widely covered in various scientific and historical sources. The work "Development of the Chemical Industry in the USSR (1917–1980)" (Moscow, 1984) on industrial policy in the USSR, including the organization of the chemical industry, is an important theoretical basis. Also, information in the newspaper "Sovet Uzbekistoni" and

articles in "Trudovaya Slava" indicate the role of the Stakhanovite movement and labor self-sacrifice in socio-political propaganda.

The main information about local processes in Uzbekistan is summarized in the works of Rajabov K. "Uzbekistan in the 20th Century" (2024), Khaidarov I., and in the second volume of "History of Uzbekistan". Separate studies on the Chirchik Electrochemical Plant ("Pervenets khimii Uzbekistana...", Tashkent, 1978; Shister G., 1957) and articles by Shamsutdinov R. and others cover the years of repression and the living standards of workers.

Archival materials (documents of the UzMA, with fund numbers indicated) supplement the factual information about industrial construction and its consequences. Badridinov S.'s candidate dissertation (1988) scientifically analyzes the contribution of the working masses to the development of the chemical industry in the 1970s and 1980s.

METHOD

During the former Soviet Union, efforts were made to create a single national economic complex. The economy of the regions was forcibly specialized in a certain field. Competitions were held between sectors of the economy to forcefully raise production to a high level. The entire Uzbek SSR was aimed at developing agriculture and cotton growing. Thus, the sectors related to the cotton industry spread throughout the republic. The oil, gas and energy industries, which

ensured the smooth operation of the chemical industry producing mineral fertilizers and pesticides, and gold mining were rapidly developed. As a result, the entire economy became one-sided.

Chemical industry enterprises were built quickly, without proper planning. One of the objective reasons for this was the problems associated with the Second World War and the subsequent reconstruction of the economy.

On May 9, 1929, the Central Committee of the CPSU (b) adopted a resolution "On Socialist Competition in Factories and Plants." In the chemical industry socialist competition 1929 in the spring, first five annual of the plan first in the year started. To him from the first as Bondyuzh chemical plant, Leningrad enterprises, "Workers" in Yaroslavl Victory » plant, Orekhovo-Zuevo "Karbolit" factory and other many of enterprises teams joined. By 1930 in the chemical industry dedication and socialist competition like unseen to the degree reached and of industry other from the fields forward went. As of January 1, 1931 according to the industry worker and 74.3 percent of employees socialist to the competition attraction done was Chemical industry development all in stages socialist of the competition various shapes five annual plans helped to fulfill [1.35.].

With the outbreak of World War II in 1939, the Center quickly began to build canals, dams, energy production, and enterprises in Central Asia. A continuous mass work order was established. The construction of the Great Fergana Canal in 1939 in 45 days is proof of this. This situation became an all-Union call. "Let's build industrial enterprises and equipment, roads and bridges, life-saving canals and reservoirs ... quickly and cheaply. This is a war cry and at the same time an important concrete task" [2] - slogans began to appear.

The name of the miner Alexei Stakhanov, who in 1935 increased the established norm for coal mining in the Donbass by 14 times, quickly became known and became a symbolic symbol throughout the Union. In fact, this achievement belonged not only to Stakhanov himself, but also to the work carried out together with several of his colleagues. However, for political propaganda at the all-Union level, a story about a single and selfless hero was much needed. The story of Stakhanov's increase in the norm several times was taken as the basis for a special propaganda campaign by the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks) called the "Stakhanovist movement". Stakhanov's achievements inspired millions of people, who sought to carry out thousands of similar labor sacrifices in various sectors of the economy. I. Stalin called this movement "a revolutionary force" in industry, and this

idea was widely spread through political propaganda. For example, on December 21, 1939, on the occasion of Stalin's 60th anniversary, factory worker Gudov worked on two milling machines and exceeded the norm 85 times [3].

The first five-year plan of the USSR national economy began in October 1928 and was completed in December 1932. Fayzulla Khojaev boldly and sharply criticized the five-year plans in the conditions of that time. In a letter addressed to I.A. Zelensky, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and the First Secretary of the Central Asian Bureau of the All-Union Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), Faizulla Khodzhaev, in April 1927, wrote: "The five-year plan was drawn up with wishful thinking. This plan does not correspond to the level of our capabilities, nor to the requirements and scope of the means at our disposal. Also, this economic plan was drawn up without corresponding to our real capabilities, experience, and the development of our national economy. Therefore, I consider Burnashev's position (his ideas about the excessively rapid growth of our budget) to be incorrect and false. This point of view stems from a misunderstanding of the main issues of our economic situation and from bigotry" [4.39.].

Chasing plans was a common practice in Uzbek industrial construction from the very beginning. We can see this in the construction of Chirchik. The party set a clear task for the builders: the country needs cotton, and fertilizer is needed to grow it. The sooner the plant is put into operation, the more cotton will reach the industry. Not only every builder, but also residents of the surrounding villages and collective farmers knew this well. They often came to Chirchik as if it were a matter of the whole people. Construction crews showed examples of heroic labor. For example, on April 4, 1940, a brigade of plasterers led by Lieutenant Colonel V. Kazmishchev completed a single shift task by 978 percent. Even far from the construction site, the names of concrete workers Khalmatov, Tursunbaev and Ovsinnikov, assembler Sidorov, stonemasons Charikov and Mishanin, and master carpenters Vozhdaev and Semyonov became famous. The engineers and workers showed great skill, resourcefulness, and courage in solving difficult problems. For example, in those years, local dump trucks were not produced in sufficient quantities, and construction was almost impossible with them. The Chirchikstroy transport workers built the dump trucks themselves. They installed wooden tipping bodies on the chassis of ZIS-5 trucks [5.3].

On November 17, 1936, –at a solemn meeting with the participation of the leadership of the Uzbek SSR, the

first cubic meter of concrete was poured into the foundation pit of the future Komsomolsk hydroelectric power station. D.P. Rozit of the power plant first aggregate to the 20th anniversary of the October Revolution gives electricity because confidence knew –. Agree this statement the work to accelerate – was aimed at . Because what are the objects – to work landing plan was not being executed . Materials and equipment on time not brought –, things enough Not funded – was . Sections at work also there were shortcomings . Some at the polling stations labor productivity is low, of this moreover , personnel restlessness high , construction estimate value over send like situations exists was . Above record done factors All-Union built – in tragic in appearance expression The terrible "great terror" that took place throughout the Soviet Union in 1937-1938 – did not spare a number of leading officials and prominent employees of the Chirchikstroy. In January 1937, the chief engineer of the Chirchikstroy, D.P. Rozit, was arrested. The USSR Supreme Court Military board By decision of the Supreme Court on July 1, 1937, he was to punishment sentence It is known . time then Konstantin Alekseevich Drennov also under arrest taken . "Stakhanovets Chirchikstroya " newspaper dated March 14, 1938 This is what it says. ominous news announcement made : "... Traitors of the Motherland Ik – Romov, Khojaev, Rozitlar their own disgusting changalini to the work of " Crash " . also left – dilar . Their own ugly construction with intention , goals completion to the moon soldi – lar, state funds to the wind they drove and under construction honest workers from the service – squeeze They took it out . With that, one in line, they build stranger, alien people, everyone filled with various bandit killers We sent . Construction of a house Supreme Court team this extreme of fascism gangs of mercenary bandits no to do about the sentence we will support . K.A.Drennov – sent several letters to V.M.Molotov from prison, tried to restore his and Rozit's good name. But K. A. Drennov died in prison in 1941. In 1957, he was rehabilitated [6. 48-70].

According to the archive, the reasons for the delay in the construction dates: allegedly, the failure to fulfill the construction dates on time was the harmful activity of the treacherous Trotskyite-Bukharin gang operating in the system of the Union-wide People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry. The representative of this gang, Pyatakov, and his agent-spy, Rozit, stationed in Chirchikstroy, were particularly active in this process.

The main areas of malicious activity were:

a) unlimited and multiple redevelopment of construction projects;

b) directing the main material resources to non-important and small objects;

v) distributing the received materials to all objects and not completely finishing any of them;

d) artificially increasing prices for certain construction materials and equipment;

d) As a result of the artificial interruption of the construction pace between the chemical and energy sections of the plant, the construction of the plant was not completed within the established time frame. The construction did not achieve results even after almost 8 years. In 1937, the party "exposed" the Trotskyist-Bukhariite gang, and new leaders were appointed to the leadership of the Chirchik construction. Despite the ruthless exposure of the enemies of the people, the new leadership of Chirchikstroy did not take the necessary measures to quickly eliminate the consequences of harmful activities, and construction continued at a slow, unsatisfactory pace. An event of great importance in exposing the harmful decisions in the Chirchik electrochemical plant project was the visit of Lazar Moiseevich Kaganovich to the construction site at the end of 1937 [7.43].

In the post-war years in the USSR, the socialist competition for the early and overfulfillment of annual and five-year plans in the chemical industry intensified with renewed vigor. The appeals of the collectives of the Chirchik Electrochemical Plant, the Dorogomilov Chemical Plant, the Gorlov Nitrogen and Fertilizer Plant, the Voskresensk Chemical Plant, the Karbolit Plant in Orekhovo-Zuevo, and the Derbenev Chemical Plant to complete the post-war five-year plan in four years were met by chemical industry enterprises [1.35].

In general, in 1946-1950, the total gross industrial output of the republic increased by 83%. The number of workers increased by 29.7%. Labor productivity grew relatively rapidly in new sectors of Uzbek industry, namely in metalworking - 3 times, in coal mining - 3.2 times, in oil production - 2.2 times, and in the chemical industry - 3.1 times. Ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, mechanical engineering, metalworking, and the chemical industry were rapidly developed [8.74].

In 1953, A. Maslova, a machine operator at the Chirchik Electrochemical Plant, initiated a socialist competition. Her initiative was to improve the technological regime and thereby increase the production of mineral fertilizers [9.5].

On December 10, 1965, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR issued a decree stating that chemists throughout the Soviet Union would celebrate their professional holiday, "Chemists' Day," on May 29, 1966

[10.31].

In order to further develop the chemical industry, the Council of Ministers of the CPSU Central Committee and the CCCP adopted a special resolution on May 23, 1968 "On measures to develop the mineral fertilizer industry and raw materials for them in 1968-1972." This government resolution demonstrated the importance of the chemical industry in the overall development of the country's economy. Thus, in 1970, 4,091,000 tons of mineral fertilizers were produced for agriculture, in 1975 this figure amounted to 6,132,000, and in 1980 - 6,511 tons. [11.161]

By the 1950s, the artificial acceleration of the "hard attack and rapid transition to communism" began to be clearly visible in the actions of N.S. Khrushchev. [12.539] At the Chirchik Electrochemical Plant, A. I. Maslova not only saved the plant hundreds of thousands of rubles in 1953, but also saved thousands of kilowatt-hours of electricity and produced more mineral fertilizers than planned. A. I. Maslova's experience was supported by workers in chemical enterprises and other branches of industry, and was widely used by chemists in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. [9.6] We can see in the archival documents that various competitions were organized. In accordance with the resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR and the Council of Trade Unions of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 121 of February 20, 1958 "On the procedure for organizing the Republican socialist competition among teams of enterprises and construction organizations of the Uzbek SSR and considering its results", the team of the Chirchik Electrochemical Plant (director Anisimkin, secretary of the party organization Yakubov, chairman of the plant committee Proskurin, chief power engineer Kalinin) was awarded first place, a portable Red Banner of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR and Uzsovsprof, and a first-class cash prize for achieving the best results in the socialist competition in saving electricity and increasing the power factor in the fourth quarter of 1958. The plant fulfilled its production plan by 107.2%, saved 7,897.1 thousand kWh of electricity, and maintained the power factor at the level of the fourth quarter of 1957 [13].

The implementation of these reforms was accompanied by competitions among workers. This led to a boom not only in the agricultural sector, but also in industrial enterprises. As a result of participation in the socialist competition in 1966, according to the results of the All-Union socialist competition among enterprises and organizations under the Chemical Industry Department of the Uzbek SSR and the Ministry of Chemical Industry of the USSR, four high-class (class) places were determined and cash prizes were awarded.

These prizes were awarded to the following enterprises: Chirchik Electrochemical Plant, Navoi Chemical Plant, Kokand Superphosphate Plant [14.46].

In 1969, the teams of the enterprises of the Uzbek SSR Chemical Industry Department organized important competitions on the labor front in connection with the 100th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. (In the archive data, we can see competitions dedicated to this date in 1968, 1969, 1970). They achieved certain successes in increasing the production of mineral fertilizers and other chemical products. Over the past four years (1966-1970), the total volume of chemical products production increased by 1.7 times. The average annual growth rate was 14.2%. Labor productivity increased by 46.5%. In 1969, the volume of production in the chemical industry increased by 5.4% compared to 1966. Labor productivity also increased. The production of mineral fertilizers amounted to 3.5 million tons. Of these, nitrogen fertilizers - 2.92 million tons, potassium and phosphate fertilizers - 550 thousand tons. They were produced and delivered [15.2].

Internal competitions were also organized within enterprises. For example, the Navoi Azot enterprise worked to further improve the organization of socialist competitions in 1968.

In the first quarter, new conditions for the socialist competition within the plant were developed and approved for the title of "Best Worker by Profession" for the competition between teams of shops, shifts, sections and individual workers. The conditions of the socialist competition also provided for measures to encourage the winners, which were implemented in such forms as including them in the "Book of Honor", placing them on the "Board of Honor" and awarding them with honorary inscriptions. Special material incentives were also provided for the winners in the internal plant socialist competition, and separate funds were allocated for such purposes in the material incentive fund [16.28-29]. The plant has launched a socialist competition for the title of "Best Worker by Profession", as well as competitions between teams, sections, shifts and shops on a large scale. The results of the socialist competition between shifts, teams and sections in the shops are announced every month, and the best workers by profession are determined. Every month Czech communities make a socialist commitment for the coming month.

At the meeting of the trade union committee of the plant, the results of the competition between the teams of the main and auxiliary shops are discussed every month. Red flags in the order of transition will be given to the teams that took the first place in the

competition, and to the second place, the transition flags will be given [17.8-9].

The planning experience, organized on the basis of the development of socialist competition in production and the use of internal resources, led to the development of “meeting plans” for enterprises that exceeded the five-year plan established for the corresponding year. This practice made it possible to overcome the negative situation when some enterprises first presented meeting plans with indicators lower than the established five-year plan, and later accepted plans that were higher than it as “meeting”. This practice was considered acceptable in conditions of economic stagnation. However, meeting plans were not effective. In recent years, the number of enterprises drawing up meeting plans has decreased (for example, the Namangan Chemical Plant, the Kokand Superphosphate Plant). Qualitative analysis shows that the main reasons for this trend are:

Constant changes in state plans, indifferent attitude of economic authorities to the initiatives of enterprises and associations.

In very many cases, when the Union-wide production associations included the meeting plans of enterprises in the draft annual plan, they did not propose realistic meeting plans, but rather rather strict indicators, even higher than the five-year targets [18.185].

In conclusion, during the Soviet era, Uzbekistan's economy developed extensively, depending on a single sector - cotton. While this yielded short-term results, it also led to long-term economic, social, and environmental problems.

Economically, the one-sidedness in production lost balance and prevented the diversification of local industry. Socially, through Stakhanovism and socialist competitions, artificial pressure was put on the workers, labor sacrificers were turned into a political symbol.

Politically, centralized governance has limited local initiatives and eliminated the possibility of creative and independent development. Environmentally, the growth of the chemical industry and mineral fertilizer production has caused great damage to nature, and the misuse of water resources has subsequently led to the Aral Sea disaster.

Therefore, the experience of this period shows the negative consequences of only extensive development of the economy and is an important historical conclusion in order not to repeat such mistakes in modern development.

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