

POLICY OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM (ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONS OF UZBEKISTAN)

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Abstract: The article analyzes the policy of the Soviet government in establishing a judicial system in the southern regions of Uzbekistan. The study covers legal changes in the interwar period, the organizational structures of the judicial system, and their impact on socio-political life. The article also discusses the role of Soviet courts in supporting and implementing changes in society, as well as how these processes were perceived by the population.

Keywords: Soviet government, Uzbekistan, southern regions, judicial system, legal changes, organizational structures, socio-political impact, the role of courts.

In October 1924, important legal changes were made in the Soviet Union. In particular, on October 31, such laws as “The Basic Criminal Legislation of the Soviet Union and the Union Republics” and “The Basic Criminal Procedure Code of the Soviet Union and the Union Republics” were adopted. These laws were also important for the southern regions of Uzbekistan, and in particular for Kashkadarya, because Kashkadarya played an important role in its history and witnessed the changes of Soviet power.

On October 1, that is, even before the adoption of the above laws, major organizational changes took place in the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BSSR). Instead of regions, 5 districts were created, including the Kashkadarya district. The districts, in turn, were divided into many regions and districts, and the Kashkadarya district also included the Karshi and Shakhrisabz regions. These regions included a number of districts: Karshi, Koson, Beshkent, Shakhrisabz, Kitab, Yakkabog, Chirakchi, Guzar and Chim districts.

These organizational changes served as the basis for the establishment and strengthening of the judicial system at the local level by the Soviet government. The adopted laws legally strengthened these organizational changes and were an important step towards ensuring judicial justice in the southern regions of Uzbekistan.

In 1924, a major national-territorial demarcation was carried out in Central Asia. As a result, the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BKSSR) was abolished and the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic (Uzbek SSR) was established. This process was officially completed on October 27, 1924, and the administrative-territorial structure of the Uzbek SSR was implemented on January 29, 1925. Thus, 7 regions were formed, including the Kashkadarya region. Initially, the city of Samarkand was designated as the capital of Uzbekistan, but in 1930 the capital was moved to Tashkent. At the same time, the process of development of the judicial system in the Uzbek SSR was also observed. The investigative apparatus under the regional court in 1925 was still very simple and weak. Since January of this year, 8 criminal cases have been considered in court sessions, all of which were in Uzbek, and 3 in Russian. In addition, 6



criminal cases were sent to lower courts, 3 cases were returned for additional investigation, and 13 cases were closed. 2 criminal cases were considered in mobile courts, and one of them was discontinued. There were no civil cases during this period. One investigator dealt with 73 cases in Uzbek, and the other with 38 cases in Russian.

After the national-territorial delimitation of Uzbekistan in 1924 and the formation of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, the process of establishing a judicial system in the Kashkadarya region was complicated. There were two main problems in this process: firstly, the lack of qualified personnel, and secondly, at that time the criminal procedural legislation was still new and its foundations were being formed.

In October 1924, people's courts and people's advisors were established in the Bekh-Budi, Koson, Chirakchi, Guzar and Shakhrisabz districts, an attempt was made to strengthen the judicial system of that time. The prosecutor's office system was also developed, but on January 9, 1925, it was known that the regional prosecutor Izmailov also participated in the joint meeting of the Revolutionary Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the regional executive committee with an advisory vote. It is noted here that Izmailov also worked as a prosecutor before Klevakin.

On July 1, 1926, the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes were adopted, which further strengthened the judicial system. Judges for the people's courts were directly elected by the People's Deputies for a five-year term. District, city and regional people's courts were also established in Surkhandarya.

The building of the regional court was located on Narimonov Street and was built before the "Revolution", and there were no decent conditions for judges and court employees here. The building had only five or six rooms, one of which was used as an adapted courtroom. Even during the years of repression, judges who tried to ensure justice were employed in this building.

In 1926-1927, secondary legal courses organized throughout Central Asia were held in Tashkent. A total of 125 people from other regions of the region, in addition to Turkmenistan, were accepted to these courses. Among the main requirements for those accepted was that they had to have at least one year of work experience in the courts or work in the Soviet state apparatus. Also, general education courses were taught in the first year, and legal subjects in the second year.

Those entering the course were required to be able to read and write in their native language based on the new orthography, to know basic arithmetic operations, and to be able to speak Russian. Students were required to bring with them clothes, bedding, and shoes that would last for a year. They were also required to undergo a medical examination and be certified free of tuberculosis, eye, and venereal diseases.

A total of 66 people from Uzbekistan were admitted to these legal courses, including 7 from Surkhandarya and 8 from Kashkadarya. 12 people from Tajikistan, 25 from Kazakhstan, 10 from Karakalpakstan, and 12 from Kyrgyzstan were also admitted. However, these legal courses did not fully achieve their goals.

At a meeting of the party committee of the regional court held on November 17, 1925, the judges' courts in Chirakchi, Yakkabag and Kitab districts were abolished and the task of organizing cells for investigators in the people's courts established in their place and finding suitable premises for work in the winter was assigned to the chairman of the regional court Turaev and his deputy Khodjaev. They were also tasked with organizing a chancellery in



accordance with Soviet legislation, finding worthy employees and organizing training courses for their short-term practice.

During the period when Rustambekov chaired the regional court, according to Order No. 68 of May 16, 1926, the former judge of the Chirakchi district, Rozikov Abdulla, was ordered to transfer all cases to the newly appointed judge Sagdulla Lutfullaev, and then he himself was dismissed from work at his own request. Sagdulla Lutfullaev, born in the Ziyadin station of the Chirakchi district, was an Uzbek, married and father of one child, and grew up in a peasant family. From 1903 to 1913, he studied at the Uzbek madrasah in Bukhara, and later worked as a farmer with his father, and also worked as a water management manager in Bukhara. He knew Tajik and Arabic. Mullah Sagdulla worked as a judge in Chirakchi and other districts, and for a while also worked in the internal affairs bodies during the Soviet period. Due to the lack of legal personnel for the Soviet state, former judges were appointed as people's judges. In 1925, due to the lack of paper, the Behbudi prison sent prisoners' applications to the State Prosecutor on tea papers. In the 1920s, the lack of improved laws, the almost complete absence of investigative and judicial practice, and the lack of specialists who understood the laws well led to many cases of law violations. Although these cases did not prove the guilt of the defendants, due to the political climate of that time, the need to quickly find the "enemy" and punish him mercilessly prevailed, and in most cases the death penalty was applied.

In January-June 1928, the Kashkadarya regional district court tried 108 people in one quarter. Most of them, namely 104, were men, and the remaining 4 were women. At the same time, there were a total of 10 cells under the people's courts in the region, 8 of which were located in the districts and 2 in the city of Behbudi.

In April-June 1928, a total of 658 cases were filed with the district courts, and more than a hundred cases were pending. In July of that year, 878 criminal cases were considered in the courts. During this period, 949 cases were filed with the courts in the region, and 1,250 cases were pending. Bar associations also operated in the Kashkadarya district courts. This association included Korets Alexandrova, Ananieva, Tsvetkova, Praeva, Sagdullaeva, Marubin, and Valinkova. The head of the association was Korets, and together with him, Alexandrova and Ananieva worked in the city of Bekhbudi, and Praev worked in the city of Shakhrisabz. Legal consultation rooms operated under the courts, providing separate legal consultation services on labor and family rights, civil and criminal law. Uzbek women in particular appealed on issues of domestic violence. The legal advice offices were located in difficult working conditions, and in the winter they operated in the "Mehnat Sarai" building in Behbudi, and in the summer in the city park. At the Karshi station, a legal advice office operated in the railway club.

In addition, during the Soviet period, the courts were also entrusted with ideological propaganda functions. In December 1929, the activities of the Republican District Court in this regard were studied by higher authorities, and the activities of the Tashkent, Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya district courts were found to be unsatisfactory.

In short, the policy of the Soviet authorities in establishing a judicial system in the southern regions of Uzbekistan was a complex and contradictory process. Although many successes were achieved during these processes, a number of problems and limitations were also observed.



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