



THE REASONS AND ESSENCE OF POLICY OF FORCED RELOCATION OF PEOPLES TO THE UZBEKISTAN SSR

Mavluda Rakhmanova

Research doctoral student of the Institute of History
of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan
erkinovnalyuda95@gmail.com
+998996530447

Abstract: The article examines the ethnic repressions carried out in the Soviet state on the eve of World War II and during it, the reasons and main content of the forced relocation of peoples by the Soviet government to the Uzbek SSR.

Keywords: deportation, repression of the Soviet government, World War II, geography of distrust, forcibly relocated peoples, ethnic cleansing, punished peoples, special settlements, Uzbek SSR.

INTRODUCTION

Today, the processes and changes taking place in the world political society have had an impact on relations between nations. One of the important tasks of the present era is to deeply study the historical roots of this. As a result of the forced deportations carried out in the Soviet state in the 30s and 40s of the 20th century, about sixty ethnic and national minorities throughout the Soviet state became the tragic victims of the violent totalitarian policy pursued by the Soviets. The fact that the results and negative consequences of this policy have become a significant problem even today and are giving rise to various contradictions in national, political, ethnic, and demographic issues requires an extremely extensive study of the historical significance and scope of the Soviet state's policy of deportation of peoples in the Uzbek SSR.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Until the last decade of the 20th century, the subject was considered closed to scientific study, a subject on which research was prohibited. In the Soviet state, such work was not openly discussed and was subject to strong persecution and control. The fact that primary sources on the subject were forbidden until the collapse of the USSR is also a clear proof of this. For this reason, scientific works on the deportation of peoples were published only abroad during the Soviet period.

The books "The Soviet Deportation of Peoples [1]", published in 1960, and "The Murderer of Peoples [2]", republished in 1970, were among the first works on the historiography of the subject, and the author Robert Convest showed in his works that the real roots of ethnic deportations carried out in the Soviet state go back to the colonial policy pursued by the Russian Empire

The problem of a complete study of the history of the policy of forced resettlement of peoples arose in Russia and the CIS countries in the late 1980s, that is, during the crisis of the "perestroika" policy and the collapse of the totalitarian regime, as well as the aggravation of various ethnic situations. Specialists began to study the roots of the problems that arose from a



historical perspective. After the 1990s, a number of scientific works were created in Russia and the CIS countries on the historiography of peoples forcibly resettled to the territory of the Uzbek SSR. Among them, the scientific research of Russian scientists (N.F. Bugai, V.N. Zemskov, V.A. Berdinskikh, P.M. Polyán, N.L. Pobol', V.S. Parsadanova, V.A. Simonenko, E.N. Chernolutskaya, A.S. Ivanov and other authors) deserves special attention.

Hundreds of scientific works and articles by foreign scholars (B.G. Williams, A. Gelb, J. Otto Paul, A. Fischer, K. Aghajan, U. Onal, K. Sword, G. Kim and other authors) reflect the process of forced resettlement of peoples to the Uzbek SSR by the Soviet authorities under Stalin and its consequences.

In the scientific works created by our national research scientists (A. Rakhmankulova, R. Murtazaeva, Sh. Pirimkulov, K. Rajabov, P.G. Kim, V.S. Khan, Kh. Bobobekov, M. Khashimova, Kh. Yunusova, Sh. Abdullaev, A. Zhumashev, O. Bozorov, K. Saipova, N. Babadzhanova, Sh. Makhmadyunusov and others) the history of the Soviet deportation policy, the fate of the peoples forcibly relocated to Uzbekistan, their socio-economic life, the consequences of the national policy pursued by the Soviet government, ethnic and demographic problems, and the care and tolerance of the Uzbek people for the peoples who suffered from the deportation policy have been covered in detail with source materials. Until now, the policy of forced relocation of peoples carried out in the Soviet state has not been scientifically studied in general with all peoples on the territory of the Uzbek SSR.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The forced relocation of peoples and the imposition of various political pressures and oppression on them, as well as the restriction of their freedoms, began to take root during the rule of the Russian Empire in the 18th-19th centuries. During the Russian Empire and Soviet rule, citizens of the country of various nationalities and ethnicities were divided into “trustworthy” and “untrustworthy” groups. At the end of the 19th century, Russian military statisticians developed a unique doctrine, which meant the “geography of distrust.” According to it, a list of “trustworthy” and “untrustworthy” peoples was compiled, and the first group of “trustworthy peoples” included Slavic peoples. The second group of “untrustworthy peoples” consisted of Jews, Germans, Poles, the peoples of the Caucasus and Central Asia. Also, regions and districts where half of the population was not made up of citizens of Russian nationality were included in the list of “untrustworthy” groups. The “geography of trust” shrank from the center of the empire to the remote border regions [3]. Since the establishment of the Soviet state, various classes and ethnic groups that were on the list of unreliable groups have been subjected to repression. As a result of such repressions, millions of people have had to undergo forced migration. P. Polyán divided the forced migrations carried out in the Soviet state into two geographical groups:

1) Internal forced migrations - the resettlement of representatives of various classes and individuals, who were considered dangerous to the state and society, as well as representatives of national minorities who were Soviet citizens, with their family members, starting from 1919 and ending in the mid-1950s. The most intense period of such migrations fell on the period of World War II, and the concept of forced migration acquired a new tragic significance. The total number of deportees during internal forced migrations in the Soviet state amounted to 6 million [4], more than 350 thousand people of various nationalities were forcibly resettled in the Uzbek SSR by 1949;

2) External or international forced migrations - occurred during the war due to prisoners of war and civilians remaining in enemy-occupied territory, and their number in the Soviet state was



even greater than internal forced displacements (an example is the transfer of 25,000 Japanese prisoners of war and 12,000 Greek emigrants to Uzbekistan).

There are “class” and “ethnic” forms of internal forced migrations carried out by the Soviet authorities. “Class” migrations were mainly carried out during the period of Sovietization and Soviet construction, and involved the relocation of workers, peasants, or military personnel of a certain class with their families to another region. When I. Stalin came to power, “ethnic” (political) repressive migrations were introduced. The victims of such migrations were deported not only from their historical homeland, but also from other districts and cities, discharged from military service, and their civil rights were restricted. Since such ethnodeportations covered entire populations, they were called “mass deportations,” and the state status and autonomy of these peoples were forcibly abolished. More than ten peoples were subjected to mass deportations throughout the Soviet Union, and seven of them (Germans, Karachays, Kalmyks, Ingush, Chechens, Balkars, and Crimean Tatars) were deprived of their autonomy. Finns, Koreans, and Meskhetian Turks were also subjected to mass deportations [5].

The concept of “punished peoples” emerged in the deportations carried out during World War II. The concepts of “mass deportations” and “punished peoples” actually mean two different approaches. The Russian scientist N. Bugai [6] and the native researcher R. Murtazaeva [7] have distinguished the reasons and goals of the deportation of peoples into groups:

- 1) Peoples deported on the grounds of preventive and “distrust” signs, accused of collaborating with the aggressor state (Germans, Koreans, Meskhetian Turks, Kurds, Hashims, Greeks, Finns);
- 2) Peoples deported on the grounds of carrying out uprisings against the Soviet state and the Red Army (peoples of Belarus, Ukraine, the North Caucasus and the Crimean ASSR);
- 3) Peoples deported for opposing the Soviet government (the population of the Baltic states);
- 4) Those deported on other political grounds (the “Vlasovites” [8] accused of collaborating with the Nazis, members of other national-military organizations) and on religious grounds.

The first group mainly included peoples who lived in the border regions of the Soviet state, who were socially dangerous and suspected due to international political processes, and who were administratively relocated from a preventive (security) point of view. The next groups included peoples accused of opposing the Soviet regime, colluding with the enemy, and betraying the homeland, and it was occurred them that the concept of “punished peoples” arose. In the history of mankind, forced migrations have never been carried out on such a large scale in any country based on political, socio-economic, class, ethnic, and ideological grounds.

Based on the above information, the Soviet government began to implement its plans through the forced relocation of peoples. On the one hand, the goal was to get rid of the means of hindering the totalitarian government, and on the other hand, to benefit from providing economically weak regions within the union with labor resources. Thus, based on the historical principles of forced migrations, political and economic factors played a more important role.

The political factor meant the relocation of residents of a certain area in order to prevent uprisings against the Soviet government, reduce the wave of discontent, and suppress resistance movements. The main goal was also to ideologically re-educate representatives of the people who were considered unreliable and to produce Soviet citizens who would serve the interests of the communist state. The economic factor meant using the deported representatives of the population as a cheap labor force and using their labor for their own interests. In the Soviet

state, deported representatives of the population were also mainly viewed as labor resources. For example, Koreans resettled in Uzbekistan worked in the mining sector, rice cultivation, and fishing kolhozs of the republic [9], Germans in labor columns [10], and those from the Crimea and the Georgian SSR were recruited to work in all agricultural, manufacturing, and other labor institutions of the republic [11].

During the period of internal forced resettlement, the deported peoples were settled in 49 republics, regions of the Soviet Union. The largest number of them was in the Kazakh SSR, followed by the Uzbek SSR [12]. As of January 1, 1952, the total number of people specially resettled in the entire Soviet Union was 2,737,398, of which 932,591 were in the Kazakh SSR and 188,634 in the Uzbek SSR [13].

The Central Asian republics were selected as the areas where administrative and ethnic deportations were carried out and where the largest number of specially resettled people was received for the following reasons:

Firstly, due to the implementation of land and water reforms, the abolition of private property, and the consequences of the policy of collectivization, the Uzbek SSR and neighboring republics were economically weakened. Due to the industrialization policy pursued by the Soviet government and the lack of serious attention paid to the education of national personnel, the need for qualified specialists and other labor resources increased. The agricultural sector played a major role in the exploitation of the forcibly relocated population.

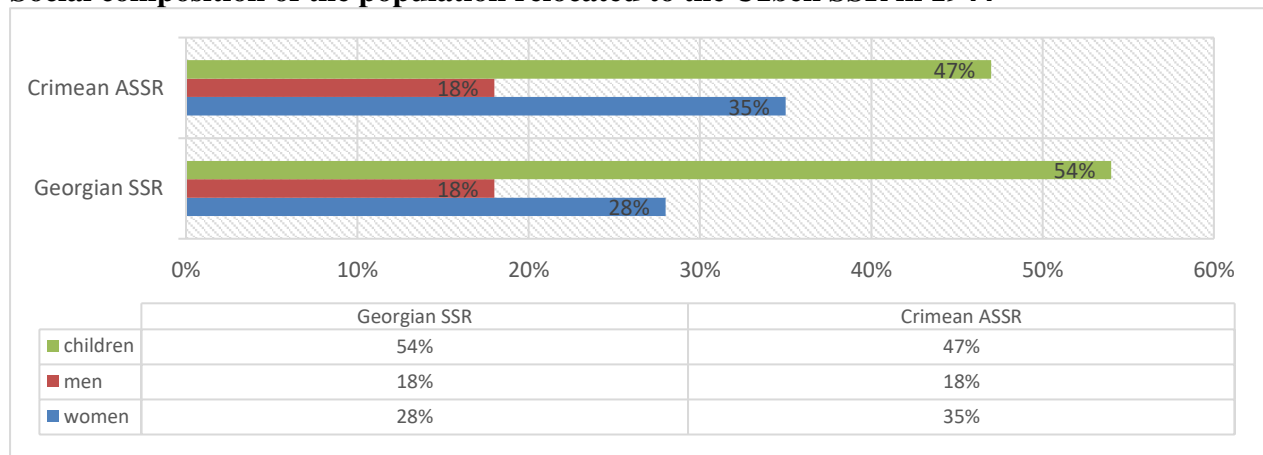
Secondly, geographically, the territory of the Uzbek SSR and neighboring republics was located at a considerable distance from the countries of political enemies of the Soviets.

Thirdly, the Bolsheviks forcibly suppressed the national liberation movements in Turkestan in 1935 [14]. It was also due to the repression of the intellectual opposition forces in this region in 1937-1938 and the fact that the struggle against the class enemies of the Soviet regime was largely over.

Fourthly, these republics were seen as a convenient place for strengthening Sovietization under the guise of the policy of "internationalism", that is, "unity of peoples", and for re-educating their citizens who would serve the Bolsheviks.

Diagram 1

Social composition of the population relocated to the Uzbek SSR in 1944



According to reports from 1946, 35 percent of those specially deported from Crimea to the Uzbek SSR were women, 47 percent were children under 16, and only 18 percent were men.



Of the total deportees from the Georgian SSR, 28 percent were women, 18 percent were men, and 54 percent were children under 16 [11]. Thus, about 82 percent of the people accused of treason and collusion with the enemy were innocent women and children. The remaining 18 percent of men were mostly disabled and elderly people unfit for work. None of them had the financial or physical means to betray their homeland.

In 1955, the Presidium of the CPSU Central Committee of the USSR issued a resolution “On measures to strengthen mass political activities among special resettlers.” The main issue in it was aimed at educating special resettlers in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and communism, and increasing attention to school education, by the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan [15].

CONCLUSION

Based on the above information, it can be concluded that another goal of the Soviet government's policy of deportation of peoples was the ideological re-education of the children of the forcibly deported peoples, instilling Soviet ideology in their minds, and encouraging women to have many children, in order to raise more and more Soviet people. It was difficult to raise such citizens from the older generations, who had witnessed all the crimes of the Soviet state, opposed the victory of the Soviet regime, and who had a good understanding of their democratic and human rights. That is why the Soviet state began to use the method of influencing the upbringing of children of kindergarten and school age, instilling communist ideas in their minds, in order to achieve political goals. This is clearly evidenced by the large number of children of kindergarten and school age in the social structure of the forcibly deported peoples.

REFERENCES

1. Conquest R. The Soviet deportation of nationalities. – New York, 1960. 203 p.
2. Conquest.R. The nation killers. The soviet deportation of nationalities. – New York, 1970. 224 p.
3. Полян П. Не по своей воле. История и география миграций в СССР. – Москва: Мемориал, 2001. – С. 87.
4. Рахманкулова А. Шўро тузумининг 30 – 50-йиллардаги катағонлик сиёсати ва унинг усуллари. // “Ўзбекистон тарихи” журнали. 1-2 сон, 2000 йил. 97-бет.
5. Поболь Н., Полян П. Сталинские депортации. 1928-1953. – Москва, 2005. – С. 8.
6. Бугай Н.Ф. Иосиф Сталин - Лаврентию Берию: «Их надо депортировать...»: Документы, факты, комментарии. – Москва: Дружба народов, 1992. – С. 285.
7. Муртазаева Р. Толерантность как интегрирующий фактор в многонациональном Узбекистане. – Ташкент: Узбекистан, 2010. – С. 64-65.
8. *Vlasovites* - soldiers of the Russian Liberation Army led by General A. Vlasov, who fought against the Soviet government and army during World War II. The Red Army soldiers captured by the German army were also commonly known by this name.
9. National Archives of Uzbekistan (NAU). Fund R-837, list 32, volume 590, sheets 4-6.
10. “Мобилизовать немцев в рабочие колонны... И.Сталин”: Сборник документов (1940-е годы). 2-е изд. – Москва, 2000. – С. 306.
11. NAU. Fund R-314, list 7, collection 5, page 162.
12. Ражабов Қ. Ўзбекистон XX асрда. Иккинчи жилд (1939-2000). – Тошкент: Фан, 2024. 24-бет.



13. История сталинского Гулага. Конец 1920-х — первая половина 1950-х годов: Собрание документов в 7-ми томах. Т. 5. Спецпереселенцы в СССР / Отварақ, ред. и сост. Т.В. Царевская-Дякина. – Москва, 2004. – С. 674.
14. Ражабов Қ. Ўзбекистон XX асрда. Биринчи жилд (1900-1939). – Тошкент: Фан, 2024. 537-бет.
15. Кешаниди Х. Выселение греков СССР в 1949 году. К 65-летию депортации-насильственного спецпереселения греков из Причерноморья. – Афина, 2015. – С. 153-155.