

**AGRICULTURAL REFORM AND EMERGING CONFLICTS**

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**ANNOTATION**

This article presents information on land-water reform implemented in 1927-1929 in the Zarafshan Oasis, as well as processes related to the reform of agriculture. An appropriate analysis was carried out and scientific conclusions were made.

**Keywords:** agriculture, agricultural artel, agricultural cooperation, collective economy, the village council, reform, Soviet authority, Land commission, confiscation, middle peasant

**ҚИШЛОҚ ХЎЖАЛИГИНИНГ ИСЛОҲ ЭТИЛИШИ ВА ЮЗАГА КЕЛГАН ЗИДДИЯТЛАР**

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**Аннотация**

Мазкур мақолада 1927-1929 йилларда Зарафшон воҳасида амалга оширилган ер-сув ислоҳоти ҳамда қишлоқ хўжалигини ислоҳ этилиши билан боғлиқ бўлган жараёнлар тўғрисида маълумотлар берилган. Тегишли таҳлил ва илмий хулосалар чиқарилган.

**Калит сўзлар:** қишлоқ хўжалиги, қилоқ хўжалик артели, қишлоқ хўжалик кооперацияси, жамоа хўжалиги, қишлоқ кенгаши, ислоҳот, Совет ҳокимияти, ер комиссияси, мусодара қилиш, батрак, ўртаҳол деҳқон, қулоқ, жамоа хўжалиги раиси.

**СЕЛЬСКОХОЗЯЙСТВЕННАЯ РЕФОРМА И ВОЗНИКШИЕ КОНФЛИКТЫ**

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**Аннотация:** В данной статье представлена информация о земельно-водной реформе, осуществленной в 1927-1929 годах в Зарафшанском оазисе, а также о процессах, связанных с реформированием сельского хозяйства. Был проведен соответствующий анализ и сделаны научные выводы.

**Ключевые слова:** сельское хозяйство, сельхоз артель, сельхоз кооперация, коллективное хозяйство, сельский совет, реформа, Советская власть, земельная комиссия, конфискация, батрак, средний крестьянин, кулак, председатель коллективного хозяйства.

**INTRODUCRION**

At the extraordinary session of the Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek SSR on December 2, 1925, decrees "On the nationalization of land and water" and "On land and water

reform" were adopted. These documents became the normative basis for the mandatory implementation of land and water reform.

The political leadership of the Bolshevik Party plans to implement land and water reform in Uzbekistan in two stages. The first stage was planned to be held in Fergana, Samarkand and Tashkent regions. According to the decree, the lands of large and medium-sized farms were to be confiscated and transferred to the state land fund. This includes farms with irrigated land of 40 desiatins or more in Fergana region and 50 desiatins and more in Tashkent and Samarkand regions. It was also planned to confiscate land and all agricultural equipment from these farms. [1]

After the adoption of these documents by the Central Election Commission of the USSR, the Uzbek Communist Party issued a circular letter of instruction "On the tasks of party organizations in connection with the land and water reform." and to distribute them among the workers in the shortest possible time. "Therefore, the principle of administrative command and publicity was taken as a basis in the implementation of the reform. In particular, it acknowledged that "land and water reforms should have been carried out quickly, by the spring of 1926, they should have been almost completed, because the prolongation of the period may be due to the general decline in agriculture, especially cotton." Weakness and instability could lead to a number of political complications and escalate the mass struggle.

Thus, the strategy and tactics of the "agrarian revolution" were approved at the II Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. According to him, in 1925-1929 the second part of the land and water reform was carried out in the USSR. This reform was implemented in 3 stages, depending on the conditions and level of readiness in the regions:

Phase 1: 1925-1926 in the Fergana, Tashkent and Samarkand regions;

Phase 2: held in 1927 in Zarafshan region (Bukhara and Central Zarafshan districts);

Phase 3: 1928-1929 in Kashkadarya, Khorezm and Surkhandarya districts.

In accordance with the above-mentioned decrees, more than the established amount of land, working animals and tools were confiscated from the owners and transferred to the state fund. In short, the lands of the rich, the great merchants, the scribes, and other landowners, as well as all their property, were confiscated. However, only 30 percent of the 301,500 acres of land included in the state fund was given to poor farmers. [2,3]

In order to break the strong opposition of landowners during the reform, the Soviet government adopted a number of decisions, which included Expropriation or looting of property registered by local land authorities was considered a social measure, with confiscation of the property either without confiscation or with confiscation of part of the property and imprisonment for up to 3 years". [4]

The fact that the land reform was carried out in a command-and-control and repressive manner caused the dissatisfaction not only of the large landowners and priests, but also of the middle class.

Between 1924 and 1925, about 85 percent of the country's working-age population was engaged in agriculture. At that time, the share of the agricultural sector was almost 80 percent of the gross domestic product. It should also be noted that 90 percent of the industry was engaged in the processing of agricultural raw materials. Of course, in such a situation, agrarian reform would have profound social significance. It is true that by the mid-1920s, certain changes had

taken place in the socio-economic life of Uzbek villages. The replacement of food distribution with food tax and the restoration of some market mechanisms have allowed the rural population to sell their surplus products, as well as to increase agricultural production. As a result, the supply of goods to farms has increased, the living standards of the population have risen slightly. However, despite this, the situation in agriculture was not so good, the main problems aimed at the restoration of agriculture have not yet been resolved, and the situation still remains complicated. In 1924, agricultural land accounted for only 58.7 percent of the country's arable land, and gross agricultural output was 47.2 percent higher than in 1913. [5]

Land and water reform in Zarafshan region (Bukhara district since 1926) has come to an end. As noted in the V Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, "in practice, the reform of the alliance of the poor and the poor with the middle class began the class struggle in the countryside and paved the way for complete Sovietization." [6]

As a result of the reforms in Bukhara district:

- 1) The lands of 11 large farms with an area of 3677.75 tanob land and their 79 head of cattle, 41 horses, 26 donkeys, 36 carts and plows, 25 sikhmolas (barons), 65 ketmoni, 105 sickles, 166 piercings were confiscated.
- 2) 56 farms, the owners of which do not work, were liquidated, 1713.75 hectares of land belonging to traders and other citizens, including 435 head of cattle, 13 horses, 4 donkeys were purchased.
- 3) 34 oxen, 12 horses, 1 donkey were forcibly purchased from 32 villages where the owners do not work, with 889.5 tanob land.
- 4) 287.5 tanob lands belonging to former emir amadars and 10 head of cattle, 41 horses, 9 donkeys, 4 hammers, 5 sixmola (barona), 3 ketmon, 3 hammers were confiscated.
- 5) Of the 603 farms whose land was confiscated in the amount of 11,509.65 tanobs, 351 head of cattle, 182 horses and 6 donkeys were forcibly purchased. [7]

From the very beginning, the Soviet authorities denied the historically tested economic means of social reconstruction of the countryside, the important experience of solving the problem of the peasantry in the "capitalist countries". According to the communist leadership, the reform was to create favorable conditions for the Uzbek villages to firmly embark on the path of socialist development, to lay the foundations for a rural economy influenced by communist ideology. The strategy and tactics of the "Agrarian Revolution" were approved at the II Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. [8]

In accordance with the ideological instructions of the II Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, on December 2, 1925, at the extraordinary session of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR, a decree "On the nationalization of land and water" was adopted. At the same time, the decree of the MIC of the republican councils on land and water reform was published. The decree set out the conditions for land acquisition and the stages of agrarian reform. The confiscation of "landlord-type" farms with more than 50 tithes of land in Tashkent and Samarkand regions and farms with 40 decades of land in Fergana region was envisaged. Farms with more than 7-10 acres of land had to be reduced.[9]

The Soviet authorities tried to influence the mood of equality and to incite class hatred by pitting the poor peasantry against the wealthy groups of the countryside, and caused class conflicts. This was called "assisting class stratification" in Communist documents. In short, the



Communist Party tried to eradicate the anti-Soviet class in the countryside at the hands of the poor peasantry who were sympathetic to the Soviet state (therefore, "poor committees" were formed in all the villages in those years).

The average peasant was given a certain amount of attention because they welcomed the reforms with distrust and extreme caution, as they feared that they would be easily separated from their border lands as a result of the reforms. In fact, the middle class was the main force in the countryside, and the whole course of the reform depended on which class the middle class came from and to which strata they belonged. That is why the Bolshevik-Communists treated the average peasant with great mastery. Given their socio-political importance, the party sought to turn them on its side. The average peasant was declared to be "a central figure in the development of the economy and in the realization of the peasant union with the working class." Measures were taken to rid him of property interests. The average norm of "land use for labor" in the country is set at 4 desiatins. The farm was allowed to have 2 horses. [10]

In fact, the reforms of 1925-1929 also to some extent initiated the policy of "eavesdropping" pursued during the years of mass collectivization. According to the original plan, 155 farms were planned to be liquidated in Fergana region, but by January 15, 1926, 575 farms had been liquidated.

In those years, all the power of the state was focused on the fight against the "ear-rich elements." For example, in 1926, an amendment was made to Article 80 of the Criminal Code. He was sentenced to 3 years in prison and confiscation of property for concealing the land and misrepresenting the number of agricultural implements. The poor in the village of Aktash in Samarkand district protested that they would not marry a stranger. [11]

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