

## THE ISSUE OF STUDYING THE HISTORY WORLD WAR II

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### ABSTRACT

Dozens of dissertations have been defended by domestic researchers, hundreds of books and a significant number of scientific articles have been written, highlighting the participation and contribution of the Uzbek people to the victory over fascism. Nevertheless, there are a number of topics that require careful study of new materials and the development of balanced conclusions. In particular, when describing the heroic deeds of the Uzbek soldiers, we should not forget about those who, at the cost of their lives, by the will of fate, were captured by the enemy. At the same time, the researcher must take into account all the circumstances related to the degree of their education, physical fitness, armament, ability and skills to use military equipment, etc. In the article, based on the study of official reports, statistical materials and memoirs of the participants in the war, the author argues that the main contingent of those taken prisoner were victims of Soviet social policy, young conscripts 17-19 years old, poorly trained, did not undergo military physical training and poorly armed soldiers fighting against the professional German army..

**Keywords:** war, history, memory, conscript, prisoners of war, concentration camp, tragic fate, victory.

### INTRODUCTION

The unequalled contribution of the Uzbek people on the battlefields and labor fields in ensuring the victory over fascism in the Second World War is a recognized historical fact. Although hundreds of books, dissertations and thousands of articles have been written on this topic, the scientific and practical importance of urgent tasks such as determining the truth about the war and conveying it to our people, deeply studying the defeats from the perspective of our national history along with the courage shown by our ancestors, and creating excellent works based on new approaches and documents is increasing.

### RESEARCH METHODS

While the process on the battlefields has been covered in the researches in great and small details, let's say that our compatriots who were captured by fate were persecuted for many years and even their names were not mentioned.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 5,700,000 Soviet soldiers and officers were captured by the enemy in World War II, and 3,000,000 of them died. According to the Ministry of Defense, 2,700,000 of the 4,560,000 captured soldiers died. The numbers of 5,270,000 and 3,000,000 were recorded in the calculations of the Federal Republic of Germany,

respectively. In February 1945, before the opening of the Yalta Conference, the number of Soviet troops captured during the war was equal to 5,734,528. At this point, among the 12,500 objects in the “Shon-sharaf” state museum of the Victory Park memorial complex, let's pay attention to the analytical figures related to the soldiers who went to war in the regions and districts of Uzbekistan and their fate.

**Table 1. From the Uzbek SSR to the front in 1939-1945 information about mobilized military personnel[1].**

No	TERRITORIES	Those mobilized to the front in 1939-1945	Died people	Missing people	Captured people
1	Andizhan region	76 264	44163	38525	1585
2	Bukhara region	56 948	15141	12145	485
3	Jizzakh region	13 827	4603	2766	349
4	Navoi region	28 668	5606	4938	213
5	Namangan region	67 824	27020	15375	1232
6	Samarkand region	109 377	24230	23553	299
7	Syrdarya region	7 182	1985	627	0
8	Surkhandarya region	31 590	8662	6316	380
9	Tashkent city	137 188	46794	12422	0
10	Tashkent region	121 613	26987	19367	5
11	Ferghana region	113 637	40198	20853	227
12	Khorezm region	36 874	9605	8343	414
13	Kashkadarya region	48 801	17424	9521	556
14	Republic of Karakalpakstan	53 014	12763	11161	606
<b>Total:</b>		902 807	285 181	185 912	6351

So, starting from 1939, Uzbek military personnel were mobilized for the battles of the Second World War. Sh. Abdurahimova's article on the social problems of the war years shows that 900,000 Uzbeks were sent to the war in 1941 [2]. Taking into account the fact that 371,698 of them were military personnel in the “Shon-sharaf” museum, it is clear that two-thirds of those who went to war did not have military training.

According to some researchers, Central Asians with insufficient military training were mainly recruited into regular infantry units, and among them the rate of death, wounding and capture was high. In addition to the low level of literacy and lack of knowledge of the Russian language, training and training for other specialties was difficult and required a lot of money. It is for this reason that since 1943, when the Soviet troops began to win, the recruitment of people from Central Asia to the labor front increased, not to the battle [3].

At the same time, we would like to emphasize that the factors that caused this situation were not analyzed. In this regard, as a result of the changes in the alphabet in 1929 and 1940, the literacy level of the population decreased, those who did not know how to read Cyrillic went to war, and physical education classes were introduced in schools after the war, in addition, the famine in the early thirties, the difficult socio-economic situation in the following years, the eve of the forties We would have mentioned issues that have not been studied scientifically, such as the repression of the nation's intellectuals as a result of the "great massacre", and the fact that the Soviet regime did not aim to make the people healthy and educated. In addition, it is reasonable to associate the decrease in the war mobilization index by 1944 with the decrease in the number of the population physically capable of military service.

In addition, 150,000 Uzbek soldiers who took part in the war were captured, most of them were young people aged 17-19, inexperienced and without relevant education. 50,000 of our compatriots died in concentration camps [4].

It's not enough that young men who have just reached adulthood were dragged into war without military training, and the fact that three soldiers were given one gun and 15 bullets, and some of them even went into battle with wooden rifles [5] certainly arouses both admiration and hatred. Nevertheless, they faced, fought and died against an enemy who was armed to the teeth with modern weapons, trained seriously for years under the leadership of skilled soldiers, and mentally refreshed. Those who survived such an unequal confrontation ended up in the hellfire of concentration camps.

According to the archive documents, those who survived the captivity were forced to keep silent about their sad past without coming out of their shell for many years. Humiliations, humiliation, insults, physical violence, hunger, victims of medical experiments and the shooting of hundreds of people as live targets during military training, inhumane conditions and relationships in concentration camps affected not only the physical but also the mental condition of the prisoners, turning them into "living dead". caused them to turn around. According to the figures, in 1941, up to 2,500 POWs died in Ukrainian camps a day due to hunger and harsh conditions in the camps [6].

Most of the Uzbek soldiers were wounded in the battles for Belorussia, Vyazma, Kiev, Kharkiv, Kerch, Stalingrad, and were captured on the battlefield, in a military hospital, or after being surrounded by the enemy. Some escaped from captivity and returned to the ranks of the partisans or the Red Army and continued the fight against fascism with the troops of France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Greece.

Those kept in captivity were distributed to 679 camps established in European territories. Captured in 1941 and until 1945, the prisoners were driven on foot under armed guard during their transfer from various regions of Europe. Polish historian according to Sh. Datner, 200,000 - 250,000 physically exhausted POWs who walked thousands of kilometers on foot during the "death marches" died on the roads.

On the eve of the victory of the Second World War, the people who were held in concentration camps by the Soviet and American troops, and who remained "barely alive" were released. However, they faced another difficult test. After the war, 1,500,000 prisoners of war who returned to the USSR were accused of being "traitors" and sent to special punishment camps

“GULAG”. For this reason, more than 180,000 - 200,000 prisoners of war had to spend their lives away from their homeland - in political exile [7].

Izzatillo Torakulov, born on February 2, 1914 in Boysun district of Surkhondarya, took part in the Soviet-Finnish war in 1940, known as the “Winter War”. Izzatillo, who was wounded and captured in one of the battles against the Romanian-German troops on the banks of the Danube, in the towns of Iasi and Belsi in Moldova, was first imprisoned in military camps in Poland, Finland, and then in Germany. He escaped from the Polish camp twice. Having heard from the prisoners of war in the camp that there were partisans in the forests of Belarus, he hoped to go and join them, but could not find a way.

When World War II ended, Izzatillo and his fellow interns were in United States-occupied Germany. They send them to Canada. After working there for a year, he returned to Moscow with an officer from the USSR and was detained and investigated for a while. According to the information given by his son Andrey, a Tajik man sentenced his father not to death, but to 8 years - to felling trees in the Far East, because of his investigation. In 1955, Izzatullo Torakulov, who spent the rest of his life in Khabarovsk region, returned to his native Surkhondarya with his family.

The decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the Council of Ministers on June 29, 1956 "On eliminating the consequences of gross violations of the law against former Soviet prisoners of war and their families" prompted a partial change in the lives of prisoners. Their cases will be reconsidered, and most of them will be given back the right to live in freedom. I tried to find and contact his comrades-in-arms who served together. Torakulov writes letters to Moscow, asking the Boysun military commissariat about the unit he served in. But all his letters received the same reply: "Soldiers of the military unit in which I.Turakulov served were killed in battle, and his documents were lost." After that, he gave up hope of acquittal. He moved to Khabarovsk again with his family.

In the 1980s, when employees from the district military committee came to hand Izzatullo Torakulov a certificate of complete acquittal and a “War Participant” medal, he said, “When I appealed to you for help, you did not let me in, calling me a traitor to the Motherland.” Now I don’t need anything. Go away, he rejects them. Father Izzatullo dies in Khabarovsk with a 48-year-old amulet and a bullet fragment in his chest [8]. Thousands of soldiers like Izzatullo Torakulov were deprived of the right to remember, let alone talk about what they saw.

## CONCLUSION

On the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, justice is being restored as a result of the activities to identify and perpetuate the names of thousands of our compatriots who were mobilized in the Second World War and became victims of unjust repression during the Soviet regime. Now, our historians have the task of studying archival documents of our compatriots who were mobilized in the war and captured, stored in our country and abroad, and to conduct research on including information about their sad fate in the “Memory” book, which is prepared every year on May 9, on the eve of the “Day of Remembrance and Appreciation”. We believe that such research will restore the memory of our compatriots who took part in the Second World War, and will fill the hearts of the generations

who have been waiting for the celebration of justice for nearly a century, and will serve to educate the young generation to appreciate peace and hate war.

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