

## SEVERE CONSEQUENCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE SURKHANDARYA REGION

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### SUMMARY

The article describes the state of chemical, construction materials, metalworking, chemical, nitrogen and organic fertilizers used in agriculture, oil refining industries built in 1940-80 in Surkhandarya region. The causes of changes in the ecological status of these industrial enterprises in Samarkand region, the negative impact on public health, the consequences of damage to soil, water and air in the surrounding area have been studied.

**Keywords:** Samarkand, environmental problems, environmental policy, history, society, water, air, soil, people, health.

During the years of independence, a lot of work has been done to improve the environmental situation, to strengthen the health of the population. Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On improving the system of public administration in the field of ecology and environmental protection" [1] development, improvement, if necessary, development of advanced methods of sampling of contaminants of relevant facilities and their physical and chemical analysis, tasks such as recycling and implementation, emission control and arbitration measurements, pollution of natural environment and quality analysis of wastewater are carried out.

At present, environmental problems are an important issue for all countries. We think that environmental problems are the product of mistakes made over the centuries. The development of science and technology has grown along with production. Along with the rapid increase in the output of industrial enterprises, the damage caused to the environment by industrial waste will increase by the same amount. Its uncontrolled emissions from industrial enterprises outweigh its losses over its revenues.

At the end of the 1980s, one of the main problems in the field of environmental information in Uzbekistan was departmental fragmentation, equipment-software and methodological incompatibility of departmental services for monitoring and control of the environment. Existing departmental environmental monitoring services were not intended for nature conservation management responsibilities [2.160].

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR of 1959 passed the Law "On Nature Protection" in order to strengthen the protection of nature in the republic, to ensure the proper use of natural resources, as well as to fully meet the constantly growing material and cultural needs of the population [3.130] accepted. On November 27, 1961 by the joint decision of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Central

Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan No. 835 "Society of Nature Protection and Landscaping of Uzbekistan" was established. The permanent deputy commission of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on the protection of nature and natural resources was also established in the regional, city and district deputy councils [3.131]. Nevertheless, the ecological situation in the remote areas of the country remained uncontrolled by all nature protection control bodies.

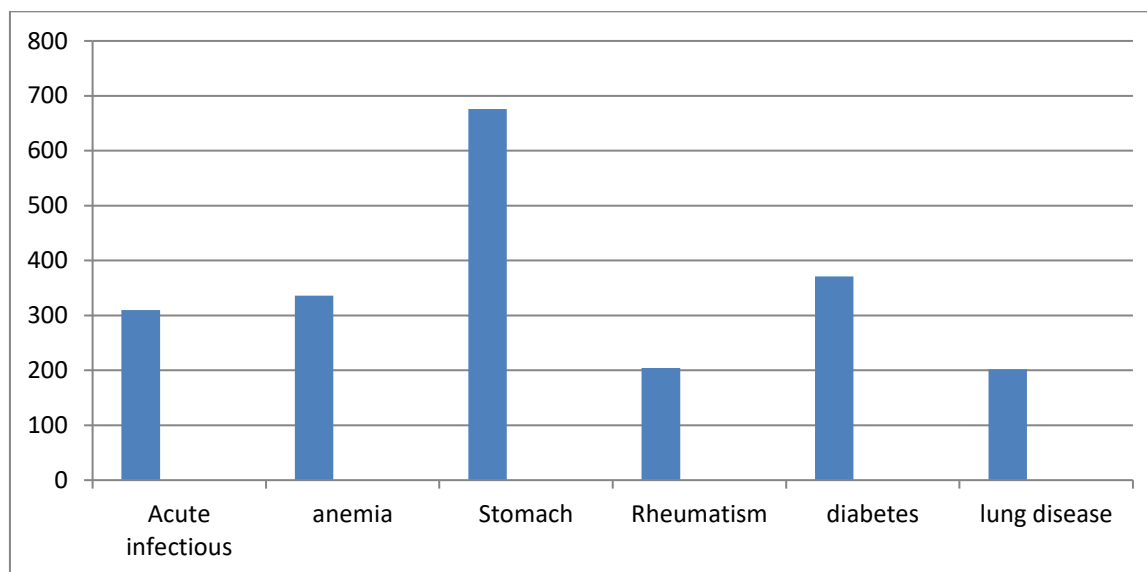
Only in 1962, the head of the Central Epidemiological Surveillance Department N. Masharipov, director of the Uzbek Research Institute of Sanitation, Hygiene and Diseases, Honored Scientist of the USSR, Associate Professor AZ Zakhidov conducted inspections to monitor the quality of drinking water in the central cities of Uzbekistan. had the following patterns when done. In 1962, the republic accounted for 45% of the Central Asian population registered for typhoid fever [4.64]. This was a high figure among the union republics. These diseases are known to be more prevalent in water and occur as a result of poisoning of the population from drinking water. During these years, 52% of the population in Uzbekistan consumed drinking water from tap water in urban areas, 22% from wells and 25% from open water reservoirs. Supervisors began drinking water by inspecting drinking water in central cities. In this regard, the inspection of drinking water in Tashkent, Urgench and Termez revealed 6.3 times in Tashkent, 10.7 times in Termez and 12.8 times in Urgench. As a result of consumption of untreated drinking water, 18 times the population in Tashkent, 34.5 times the population in Termez and 36.5 times the population in Urgench became infected with drinking water [4.65]. In 1950-60, Surkhandarya region had cotton gins and various cocoon gins, the technical equipment of which did not meet the demand. Wastewater from cotton and cocoon ginning industries is discharged into open canals and ditches. It was noted that these waters were absorbed into the ground and the population was exposed to drinking water [4.68].

One of the main factors that further aggravated the environment and public health and ecological situation of Surkhandarya in 1965 was the Tajik aluminum industry located in this cross-border region. Construction of the aluminum plant in Tajikistan began in accordance with the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Tajik SSR of January 18, 1963 "Development of ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy in the USSR" [5]. The area of the aluminum plant is 620, of which 320 hectares are buildings. This chemical aluminum plant, built in Tajikistan, emits aluminum dust particles into the atmosphere. Due to the fact that the chemical plant's harmful dust is very close to the neighboring country, Uzbekistan, its damage to the Sariosiya district of Surkhandarya region poses a serious threat to the environment and the health of its inhabitants. This has led to various protests by the population.

"Save our children from the impact of the Tajik aluminum plant!" Demonstrations in Uzun and Sariosiya districts of Surkhandarya region in front of the Tajik embassy in Tashkent under the slogan Information on cancer, cirrhosis of the liver, premature birth in women was submitted to the embassy. Appeals have been sent by residents who are fed up with such health and environmental problems.

In the process of studying the negative impact of the chemical industry on the population, the following factors have been clarified. In 1981, a study of the incidence of childhood diseases in Termez, Surkhandarya region, found 83 children in rural areas and 269 in urban areas. In

particular, in 1981, the following data were obtained on the transportation of sick children to Termez for 1 year [7].



By the end of the 1980s, the threat to human life posed by the chemical plant, and the sharp rise in various diseases, prompted the center to explore the area around the Tajik aluminum plant, albeit slightly. The aluminum plant in the Republic of Tajikistan, built on the orders of the former Soviet Union, has attracted the constant attention of researchers to the ecology and the environment, the dangers to the population. Specialists from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tashkent and Dushanbe were involved in 1988 to study the possible negative impact of the aluminum plant in Tajikistan on the environment. The first task posed to the expert scientists was to develop a program to reduce the amount of waste, to prevent the spread of metal waste from the aluminum plant to the environment. However, public health surveys have shown that the incidence of fluorosis among children in Sariosiya district is 2-3 times higher than in other districts [8.232]. It is obvious that the deterioration of the environmental situation in Surkhandarya region has not been prevented, and the problem has not been taken seriously. Child health is a top priority for any state. Every state cares about the uninterrupted maturity in the gene pool of its generation. Examination of the health of children in Sariosiya district of Surkhandarya region revealed that the incidence rate in the regions of the country is 1.4-2.5 times higher [8.231]. In addition, it has been observed that the prevalence of oral cavity disease in children is higher in fluorine-contaminated areas than in checkpoints. When the drinking water of the areas polluted by the aluminum plant was inspected, it was found that more than 940 water samples taken from the reservoirs contained 4 times more permissible levels of fluoride and 5.5-2.3 times more in food [8.231].

Construction of the aluminum plant in Tajikistan began in accordance with the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Tajik SSR of January 18, 1963 "Development of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy in the USSR [9]" The area of the aluminum plant is 620, of which 320 hectares are buildings.

The environmental threat posed by the aluminum plant, built during the former Soviet era, has always been in the spotlight of researchers. Experts from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tashkent



and Dushanbe were involved in the study to study the possible negative impact of the aluminum plant in Tajikistan on the environment. The first task for the scientists was to develop a program to prevent the spread of scrap metal from the aluminum plant into the environment, to reduce the amount of waste. These studies in 1989 showed that the Tajik aluminum plant emits a lot of waste into the atmosphere. As a result, scientists say, the plant's toxic emissions to the environment have been reduced by 2.5-3 times [10]. However, such studies have not been proven in practice and have not improved the environmental situation. The results of the research and the fight against negative indicators remained only on paper. This, in turn, has led to a further deterioration of the environmental situation in the region and an increase in the number of diseases among the population.

Residents of Surkhandarya region are still suffering from the deteriorating environmental situation and have nowhere to turn. The population has also sent appeals to the regulatory authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan. The constant answer to them is “..this industrial enterprise was built during the Soviet era, and the Tajiks are not to blame... [11]

In conclusion, in fact, industrial enterprises were built during the former Soviet Union without taking into account the interests of the population, the environment and environmental safety. Even the fraternal republics, disillusioned with the economic policy and obligations of the Soviet Union, had to unconditionally carry out only the tasks of the center. The income of industrial enterprises and the finished products served the interests of the Soviet Union. However, the technical support of industrial enterprises was not repaired at the expense of revenues from their own production. Its environmental pollution factors were not taken into account.

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