History of Demography of Industrial Cities of Tashkent Region

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Abstract: This article is devoted to the study of urbanization processes in industrial cities of Tashkent region such as Angren, Chirchiq, Almalyk and Bekabad by highlighting the population migration and related demographic changes in this area. The periodic limit of the article is set from the second quarter of the XX century to the beginning of the XXI century. The article focuses on the migration of these resource cities during the years of Soviet rule, and then the changes that happened during the years of independence. In addition, economic, social and political factors influencing changes in population dynamics were revealed. The article also highlights the contradictions and problems in the Soviet government’s concepts for the construction of industrial cities. It is noted that due to the economic, social and political reforms carried out by the republic during the years of independence, the urbanization process in the studied cities is stabilizing.

Keywords: Resource cities, demographics, native population, resettled population, national composition, industrial enterprises, economic processes

Introduction

The Bolsheviks, who seized power in October 1917, developed a concept for the construction of industrial enterprises and resource cities in the country as part of the implementation of new economic reforms. Within the framework of this concept, Uzbekistan was also pursued a policy of industrialization. Measures were developed to build new types of resource cities in remote areas of the country, especially in Uzbekistan. Since the 1930s, practical measures have been taken to launch the first large industrial enterprises in the country. In setting up these enterprises, the Soviet government first planned then to be administrative centers close to the capital. To this end, the concept of building the first large industrial enterprise in Uzbekistan on the site of the Niyazbek Fortress in Tashkent region was approved. The main factor in the approval of this concept was the scientific confirmation that, first of all, it is close to Tashkent city, and secondly, the Chirchiq River, which flows near the region, can be a cheap source of electricity for industrial enterprises. Thus, in Tashkent region in 1935, near the newly built hydroelectric power plants, the resource city of Chirchiq was formed. Besides, according to the results of a scientific expedition conducted by Soviet geologists in the mountainous areas of Tashkent region in the 20s and 30s of the XX century, it turned out that the country's natural mines are the largest ones not only in the republic but in the whole union. With the involvement of the Soviet Union in World War II, these resources were directed to the material supply of the front. After the end of the war, cities under the jurisdiction of the region were built on the basis of enterprises. In particular, in 1945 the cities of Bekabad, in 1946 Angren, and in 1951 Almalyk appeared. These cities were formed in areas close to ready-made raw materials or energy sources, that is, far from existing residing areas. there were hardly any workers near newly built places. Therefore, the workers of heavy industry were moved here from other areas with their family. As production in urban industrial enterprises increased, so did the demand for labor. As a result, the population of the Soviet state republics in the industrial cities of the region grew from year to year. According to 1960 statistics, 60 percent of the population in Tashkent region was resettled [13, p.13]. The native population was mainly involved in hard labor until the establishment of
these enterprises. In particular, it is recorded in local archival documents that, the natives used in the construction of the first enterprises in Chirchiq, in the construction of Farhod hydropower plant in Bekabad, in the construction of railways and asphalt roads leading to enterprises in Angren and Almalyk, were re-involved in agriculture after the end of their service.

ResearchMethodology

In conducting this study, first of all, attention was paid to a comparative analysis of the demographic policy of the Soviet era with the reforms carried out in this area during the years of independence. Based on this, the literature on the subject during the Soviet era was studied. In the process of studying the literature, the history of the resource cities, the demographic situation there, and, on this basis, the urbanization policy pursued by the Soviet government were revealed. Besides, the policy of resettlement from the republics of the Union to the resource cities, its results were analyzed. Based on the principle of historicity, the method of chronological approach was determined as the first place in the study. In addition, special attention was paid to the dynamics of issues related to resettlement policy.

Also, historical comparative, statistical, chronological research methods were used in the research process. Particularly, the cohort method was effective. For cohort analysis, the population was generalized by dividing the urban population into specific groups. That is, during the study, the urban population was divided into two groups. One group was identified as natives and the second group as residents relocated to cities during the Soviet era. Native people include Uzbeks and Tajiks, who have historically lived in the region, and the Slavic peoples from the Soviet state republics were assigned to the resettled population. In addition, in the statistics of the urban population, a small number of people, such as Koreans, Caucasians, Greeks and even Jews, were accepted as resettled people. By conditionally dividing the urban population into this type, it became possible to embody the dynamics of the population.

Comparative statistical and social analysis methods allowed to clearly reflect the demographics of the population. In particular, using this method, it was possible to reveal the processes of internal and external migration observed in these cities in the 90s of the XX century.

In addition to the statistical method of research, methods such as tabulation, periodicity, classification, variability were used in the application of graphical systems.

Another method of historical demographic research which is mathematical analysis has been used to draw conclusions through generalizing the population, derivating percentages, identifying the differences between groups. In addition, individual conclusions were drawn through social analysis based on the objective or subjective conclusions of previous researchers dealing with this issue.

Results and discussion

In the 30s of the XX century, the industrialization policy was launched in the republic. In 1931, by the order of Moscow, about 15 000 workers were sent to Uzbekistan. Within the framework of this project, 12 562 specialists of various professions sent to Uzbekistan in 1933-1935 included workers of the Chirchiq Resource City, which was planned to be built 30 kilometers north-east of Tashkent. As early as in 1933, more than 350 workers of various specialists were involved in the establishment of enterprises in the city [2]. 130 of them were from Samara, 27 from Morshansk, and 200 from Oris. In recent years, it can be observed that the flow of workers for construction of industrial cities has increased. In particular, in 1939, the city of Chirchiq had a population of 14 733 people [6]. During the Second World War, along with large industrial enterprises specializing in machinery, chemicals and energy, their workers were also evacuated to Chirchiq. As a result, the urban population was grown up. In particular, on the eve of the war the city's population was 36 000, and in 1945 it reached 68 600 [12]. After the end of the war, there was a relative decline in the number of population as a certain proportion of industrial workers returned to their homeland. In addition, the relocation of certain specialists from the industrial city of Chirchiq to other industrial districts of the regional also affected the population.
change. In 1946, the population of Chirchiq was 44 500, in 1960 the population was 88 000 [12], in 1970 it was 108 000, in 1979 it was 132000, and in 1989 it was 157 000 [11, p.26]. Such a sharp increase in the population of the industrial city of Chirchiq is a mechanical process, in order to provide the city's industrial enterprises with labor, the policy of resettlement from the Soviet state republics lasted until the years of independence.

Especially during the years of Soviet rule, this situation was clearly reflected in the ethnic composition of the urban population. In particular, on the eve of World War II (1939) of the 14 733 residents of Chirchiq, 3 164 (20 per cent) were native and 11 033 (74 per cent) were Slavic peoples [7; 9]. Besides, a small number of ethnic minorities, including Koreans, Germans, and Jews, were registered in Chirchiq during this period, bringing their total number to 874 (6 percent). By 1960, the population of the Slavic peoples in the city had increased five times, to more than 55 000 [8; 10]. This figure was 62.5 percent of the total urban population. During this period, more than 10 000 (11.5 percent) Caucasians, about 3 000 (3.5 percent) Koreans, more than 5 000 (5.5 percent) Greeks and other nationalities were resettled in Chirchiq [18, p.135]. In the post-war years, the share of the natives in the urban population was 15 000 (17 percent) [9, p.77-80]. This process continued during the subsequent years of Soviet rule. By 1989, in Chirchiq132 000 (84 per cent) of the population had been relocated, while the share of the natives was 25 000 (16 per cent).

Also, in 1939, in the foothills of the Farhod Mountains, a workers' settlement named Bekabad with 8 300 people was established. Considering the proximity of this place to the Syrdarya in order to specialize in metallurgy and mining, the construction of the Farhod hydroelectric power station (HPP) was begun. About 70 000 [1] (more than 60 000 in some publications [16, p.40,]) of natives participated in the construction of this HPP as an auxiliary force.

In addition, during the war years, an industrial facility specializing in metallurgy was moved here, which was relocated from the front lines. Specialists from different republics were brought for this enterprise by railways. By 1945, when Bekabad took the status of a city, the population reached 50 000. By 1948, the city's population had dropped to 25 000 [15, p.109]. The main reason for this was the construction of the Farhod HPP, which involved 13 000 workers from different regions of Uzbekistan [17, p.18]. They had a population of about 70 000, including family members. Part of this population was involved in military operations on the front. When the construction of the Farhod HPP was completed in 1947, this population was reunited with their families in agriculture.

In the following years, the policy of relocating people from different republics to work in heavy industry continued. By the 1970s, the population of Bekabad had reached 57 700 [4] whose 19 162 of the population (34 percent) were Uzbeks. 16 055 (28 percent) Russians, 11 825 (20 percent) Tatars, 5 000 (9 percent) Koreans, 2 002 (3 percent) Tajiks, and 1 117 (2 percent) Ukrainians [15, p.109]. This means that during this period, 62 percent of the population of Bekabad was resettled population. This figure has grown in recent years at the expense of the relocated population. If in 1975 the population of Bekabad was 60 400, in 1985 the population of the city reached 77 700. In 1990, the population of Bekabad was 81 204 [5].

Another city in the Tashkent region, Almalyk, which was formed on the basis of the mining industry, also had relocated population from the union republics in the postwar years. If in the first period after the war the settlement had a population of 5 000, in 1951 it received the status of a city with a population of 8 700 [10, p.31]. By 1960, Almalyk had a population of 40 500. 21 235 (52 percent) of them were Russians, 4 128 (10 percent) were Uzbeks, 1 915 (5 percent) were Ukrainians, 183 (1 percent) were Belarusians, 448 (1 percent) were Kazakhs, 7 305 (18 percent) were Tatars, 377 (1 percent) were Jewish and 2 389 (6 percent) were Korean [3]. This means that in 1960, 35 923 (89 percent) of the population of Almalyk were members of the resettled population. By 1970, the number of displaced people in Almalyk had reached 72 000 (88 percent). In the following years, the population of Almalyk also grew due to the resettled population. In particular, in 1980
the population of Almalyk reached 102 400, and in 1989 – 114 000 [19, p.71.].

During the war years, with the growing demand for coal, one of the most important natural resources, people from different republics were relocated to the coal-rich areas in the foothills of the Qurama and Chottal mountain ranges in Tashkent region. In 1941, on the site of the villages of Jigaristan, Jartepa, Turk and Teshikta, the settlement* of Angren Mining Construction, with a population of 6 000, was established. During World War II, an increase in the share of ethnic Tajiks in the Angren Mining Construction Village was accompanied by the relocation of part of the native population in remote areas of Tajikistan, such as Tongoz, Asht, and Oshoba, to Karabakh. In addition, local Tajiks have long lived in the settlements of Hakkaran and Bogisurkh near Angren.

Especially in the post-war years, the urban population increased mechanically. If, in 1946, the city had a population of 20 540, in 1959 their number rose to 55 789 [18, p.92]. In 1970, the city had a population of 84 876 [30, p.109]. In 1979, Angren had a population of 105 757, while in 1989 the population was 137 615 [11, p.20].

Resettlement has been an important factor in the growth of the city's population. In particular, in 1959, 13 222 people (23.7 percent) of Angren were native population, while 35 985 (64.5 percent) were Slavic [22, p.4]. Besides, Koreans, Germans, and Greeks were also resettled in the city, with a total population of 6 582 (9.2 percent) [21]. In 1979, Angren had a population of 30 248 (28.6 percent) Uzbeks and 13 142 (12.4 percent) Tajiks [22, p.4]. 51 772 (49 percent) of the city's population spoke Slavic languages, and 10 595 (10 percent) of the population were Koreans, Germans, and Greeks [21]. By 1989, Angren had a total population of 61 537 (44.7 percent) natives and 76 078 (55.3 percent) resettled people [22, p.4].

The shortcomings of the Soviet state economic process, which began to be recognized in the mid-1980s, were primarily reflected in the activities of industrial enterprises. In particular, shortcomings in the inter-republican communication system established during the Soviet era, such as power outages (electricity, gas and even water), directly affected production and led to the unemployment of industrial workers. As a result, industrial workers left the city one by one. In comparison, during the years of independence, the share of resettled population in the dynamics of urban population has decreased. Besides, as economic processes in cities become more complex, it has been observed that part of the native population began to work on subsidiary farms. In particular, the population declined between 1991 and 2010, but after 2010, with the improvement of water, gas and electricity supply to cities, rural population's desire for the migration to the city increased. In particular, the statistics on the dynamics of the population of the city of Angren show that in 1991 the population was 132 600, in 2000 it fell to 129 100. Part of the population of Chirchiq also moved from the city to remote areas during the economic crisis. If in 1991 the total population of Chirchiq was 158 400, in 2005 it was 140 500. The population of Almalyk also decreased in the first years of independence. In 1991, the population of Almalyk was 116 400, but by 2000, the population had dropped to 113 300. Among the cities of Tashkent region, only Bekabad shows an increase in population during this period. In 1991, the city of Bekabad had a population of 82 800, but by 2000, the city's population had grown to 84 100. This figure has grown in recent years. This may be due to the city's proximity to Tajikistan.

In addition, the emigration of Slavics and other nationalities with minor ethnic groups to the neighboring countries has increased. In particular, this situation is clearly reflected in the dynamics of the national composition of the population of industrial cities in Tashkent region. If on the eve of independence 53.3 percent (76 078 people) of the population of Angren were resettled, in 2010 this figure was only 9.4 percent (15 843). This figure was 8.6 percent (15 582 people) in 2015 and 4.5 percent (8 478 people) in 2019.

*settlement – meant urbanized area
In Bekabad, the dynamics of the Russian-speaking population, like in other industrial cities, has declined. In particular, on the eve of independence, the city had a population of 44,987 (55.4 percent) Russian-speaking people, in 2010 their number was 10,384 (12 percent), in 2015 – 3,531 (3.8 percent), and in 2019 – 4,247 (2.7 percent).

The national composition of the population of Chirchiq has also changed accordingly. In 1991, 80 percent of the population of Chirchiq (126,720 people) were Russian-speaking, in 2010 it was 38.5 percent (55,921 people), in 2015 it was 31.2 percent (47,500 people), and in 2019 it was 24.3 percent (38,345 people).

Besides, in 1991, 83,808 (72 percent) of the population of Almalyk were Russian-speaking. In 2010, their number fell to 35,450 (30.6 percent), and in 2015 to 37,424 (30.1 percent). In comparison, by 2019, the resettled population reached 26,613 (20.3 percent).

During the years of independence, the demographics of industrial cities in Tashkent region were also affected by the inclusion of nearby rural settlements to the structure of industrial cities. In particular, mainly Uzbeks lived in the suburban villages of Obliq, Jigartan, Teshktash, Apartak, Soglom, Gulbog, Katagon, while in Karabakh, YangiBogisurkh, Hakkarman lived Tajiks. With the addition of these areas to Angren, the demographic dynamics of the city showed an increase of the native population. This can be justified primarily by highlighting the share of the native people in the national composition of the population. According to urban statistics, the share of the native population in Angren in 1991 was 61,537 (44.7 percent), in 2010 it was 152,585 (90.6 percent), and in 2015 it was 164,867 (91.4 percent). In 2019, Angren had a native population of 179,922 (95.5 percent).

In Bekabad, another industrial city of the Tashkent region, the since 1991 dynamics have shown an increase of the native population. In particular, archival documents from 1991 show that 36,217 people (44.6 percent) lived in Bekabad. Also, this figure was 76,628 people (87.9 percent) in 2010 and 87,543 people (96.2 percent) in 2015. In 2019, the share of the native population in Bekabad had reached 153,053 (97.3 percent).

In Chirchiq, the share of the native population has been growing from year to year. In 1991, Chirchiq had a native population of 31,680 (20 percent), while in 2010 their number rose to 89,052 (61.4 percent). In 2015, the city had a population of 104,264 (68.8 percent) natives. As of 2019, the city had a population of 119,455 (75.7 percent).

During the years of independence, the share of the native population in the industrial city of Almalyk, as well as in other cities of the Tashkent region, has been growing from year to year. In 1991, the city of Almalyk had a population of 32,592 (28 percent), while by 2010 their population had grown to 72,440 (62.6 percent). In 2015, the native population was 86,928 (70 percent), while in 2019, the figure rose to 104,487 (80 percent).

**Recommendations**

Based on the results of this historical demographic study, the following recommendations have been developed:

First, the study of population dynamics over the years has been shown to be effective in showing the migration wave in the region.

Second, the application of methods such as statistical, cohort, comparative, mathematical analysis, social analysis in the historical coverage of demographic processes has contributed to the growth of research value.

Third, the historical analysis of the demographic situation in the region directly affects the social, economic and political processes in the region.

In addition, it was shown that the economic reforms carried out by the Soviet government in the cities caused them to be portrayed as a resource city.

In the early days of independence, due to the severance of economic ties between Uzbekistan
and the republics of the Union, the departure of Slavians and other ethnic minorities, the main labor force in enterprises, was a serious blow to urban development.

As a result of the economic processes carried out in the next stage of the reforms, the productivity in enterprises emerged and developed, it changed economic and social situation in the cities.

In order to prevent further economic problems in the cities, it is necessary to study in detail the World experience in this area and to carry out reforms of the industrial cities on the basis of it.

It should be paid attention to the personnel training, as well as, conducting modernization processes in industrial enterprises.

It is well known that the improvement of production in the mining industry is primarily based on experience, so it is advisable to establish scientific laboratories on the basis of industrial enterprises.

**Conclusion**

The analysis of the above figures shows that due to the Soviet government's policy of industrialization in Uzbekistan, the cities took on the appearance of resource cities rather than manufacturing cities. They also supported the policy of not bringing the native population as close as possible to the industrial enterprises established by the government. However, some literature published during the Soviet era states that, the native population was not involved because they did not want to give up their traditional way of life [20; 16, p.14.]. While this is partly true, it is possible that the Soviet government used such "excuses" to direct the local population to agriculture.

The study also revealed that internal and external migration had a significant impact on changes in the demographic indicators of the studied industrial cities in Tashkent region. In particular, this effect was closely related to the economic difficulties experienced in cities in the 1990s.

By 1991, with Uzbekistan's independence, economic difficulties had become more severe. Because, disruptions in the supply of raw materials for industrial enterprises due to the disintegration of the declaration of the Soviet state with the Republic, the suspension of the supply of products from Uzbekistan to other republics, and similar factors have temporarily stopped the activities of industrial enterprises. During this period of economic crisis, the demographic situation in resource cities worsened as well. Migration has increased and the number of people going to the villages and neighboring areas. Under such conditions, the government of the republic allowed the population to establish subsistence farms by establishing ancillary farms. In this situation, part of the population was forced to move to nearby villages.

In addition, the reforms carried out on the basis of world experience to establish free and special industrial zones aimed to the development of industrial enterprises in the country gave a positive result. In particular, such an event was introduced not only in Angren, but also in other regions of the country. These include the Jizzakh and Navoi free economic zone policies [23, p.119-152].

Besides, the population registration policy (propiska) introduced during the years of independence has also led to population growth in the cities of Tashkent region.

In recent years, due to social and economic reforms aimed at the restoration of industrial cities and the creation of favorable conditions for the population there, the situation of urbanization in Tashkent region has begun to radically renew. On the basis of these reforms, based on world experience, the focus is primarily on the implementation of social reforms, as well as the creation of a favorable investment climate in cities. As a practical result, the growth of the population in the cities, the image of production in the cities is inextricably linked with the interests of the state.
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