

## Some Features of Regional Policy in Turkestan

**Normatov Otabek Maxamatjonovich,**

Doctor of philosophy historical sciences (PhD), Senior Lecturer of the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers,  
Tashkent, Uzbekistan, [o.normatov@tijame.uz](mailto:o.normatov@tijame.uz)

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**ABSTRACT:** The zoning policy carried out in the Turkestan ASSR, from the 1922 very beginning had economic and administrative features. The Soviet government in 1923-1924, attracting to the zoning policy, in addition to the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukhara and Khorezm republics, on the one hand, sought to manage the economy of the entire Turkestan Territory from a single center and achieve economic efficiency, on the other hand, zoning was aimed at reviving and the development of a destroyed national economy.

This article reflects general aspects of zoning policies. The development and implementation of the economic and territorial zoning of the Turkestan ASSR is analyzed based on historical sources.

**KEYWORDS:** Regionalization, Turkestan ASSR, Bukhara and Khorezm republics, Turkestan Economic Council, All-Russian Soviets, zoning policy, zoning commission, national-territorial delimitation, industry, transport system, trade relations.

When the Soviet power was established in the territory of the Russian Empire, the Bolsheviks in the 1920 -1921 paid particular attention to the zoning policy. Soviet, party and economic authorities worked to develop and implement economic and regional zoning in a large country. This policy was also implemented in the Turkestan ASSR.

At the VIII Congress of All-Russian Soviets in Moscow in December 1920, the issue of Russian zoning was revised to reconsider the centralization of the state apparatus formed during the policy of

"military communism". [1.]. When the issue of regionalization was first addressed, the economic front was intended to carry out plans for labor sharing with the Center and the reconstruction of the technical base in all sectors of the economy. The 8th Congress of All-Russian Soviets entrusted the Central Executive Committee of the All-Russian Federation to elaborate all the details of the issue of zoning of Russia [2, -p. 321.].

The main proposals developed by Central Executive Committee were approved at the IX Congress of All-Russian Soviets in 1921, and Turkestan and its capital Tashkent were declared a separate economic district of the Russian Federation as the largest autonomous national association.

Seeing complete disproportions in the internal structure of the Turkestan ASSR, the Turkestan Economic Council, in accordance with the decision of the X Congress of the All-Union Soviets (September 1921), began reorganizing the regions of the republic within small territorial and administrative boundaries (provinces). For this purpose, a special subcommittee (subcommittee) was established under the State Planning Committee at the Labor and Defense Council. [3.]

The Regional Subcommittee (RCC) allocated Turkistan (including Khiva and Bukhara) economically to the following 11 sub-districts:

“1. The Semireche [Yettisuv] sub-district [the district] unites Almaty, Jarkent, Kopal, Urjar, Ucharol districts.

2. The Chuy sub-district unites Karakul, Pishpek counties, and partially the Avioota and Turkestan counties.

3. The Aris-Talos sub-district connects the rest of Pishpek, Avlyoota and Turkestan counties.

4. The Lower Syrdarya sub-district unites Gazali and Perovsk districts.

5. Tashkent Subregional connects Tashkent, Jizzakh and Uratapa districts.

6. The small region of Samarkand connects the Samarkand and Kattakurgan counties.

7. Fergana small district partially Khujand (it was an independent district until the beginning of 1922); unites Kokand, Namangan, Andijan, Ferghana, Osh and Naryn.

8. The lower district of the lower Amudarya unites Khiva and the Amudarya region.

9. The small region of Transcaucasia unites the entire Turkmen region.

The Republic of Bukhara is divided into 2 sub-districts:

10. The Middle Amudarya sub-district is West Bukhara.

11. Eastern Bukhara is a small district of the upper Amu Darya” [1, -p. 2].

Naturally, the policy of zoning in Turkestan was ignored in the territory of the Kyrgyz ASSR [Kazakhstan ASSR]. Historically, the Kyrgyz ASSR (the capital of Orenburg) was established in August 1920 as part of the RSFSR, mainly Kazakhs and Russians. Kyrgyzstan, that is, when the Kazakh ASSR was established, most of the Turkestan ASSR area was given to it. However, the issue of zoning had not yet been raised.

In the development of the Turkestan zoning project, the Russian Federation (RSFSR) Subcommittee on Gosplan considers two aspects: the water system and the existing administrative division. The first case focuses on the creation of the Chui sub-district and the second case on the creation

of two sub-districts in the Zarafshan Valley [1, - p. 2].

According to D. Krasnovsky, Chairman of the Zoning Subcommittee under the Gosplani Economic Council of Turkestan, dated May 27, 1922, the following features were identified as subdivisions:

1. Population.

2. Land access.

3. Ratio of pasture, forest and greenery.

4. Ratio of cultural crops (crop).

5. Livestock.

6. Natural and historical conditions [1, - p. 4-5].

In addition, many large areas of the national economy: industry, transport, water management, trade (commerce) and others were taken into account in the zoning process in Turkestan. All-Russian census materials of 1917 and 1920 were also widely used in regional policy [4].

It would be expedient to give a brief overview of the territory and population of the facilities and districts of the Republic of Turkestan in 1917 and 1920.

In 1917 Turkestan had 5 counties (Syrdarya, Semirechye, Fergana, Samarkand, Zakaspiy) and 27 districts in the Amudarya branch. (See Appendix. 1) However, the Turkestan Territory was 1 533 267 versta<sup>2</sup> in 1917, and in 1920 the territory of the Turkestan ASSR declined to 1,337,847 versta<sup>2</sup>. [20-21]. Because the territory of Turkestan 200,000 versta<sup>2</sup> was transferred to the Kazakh ASSR, which was established in August 1920.

Later, a considerable part of Turkestan territory was given to this autonomous republic.

According to the All-Russian Census of 1917 and 1920, the small administrative division of the Republic of Turkestan was as follows: In 1917 the provinces and districts in Turkestan were divided into 32 cities, 170 urban-type settlements and railway stations, 603 volosts, and 4658 rural communities and auls. In 1920 there were 35 townships, 156

urban-type settlements and railway stations, 466 volosts, and 3825 rural communities and auls. In 1917 the population of the countryside was 9 461, while in 1924 their number decreased to 8916 [1, - p. 30-31.]. However, this list shows that in 1920 rural communities and populations living in one district in 1920 increased slightly on average.

The Turkestan Water Management Administration made some initial, though rough, decisions about zoning in recent years. They did not recognize administrative boundaries and used small-scale irrigation - a cross section of districts instead of existing provinces and counties for administrative purposes. According to the materials of the Department of Water Management, there will be 31 constituencies, instead of 31 districts in the Turkestan ASSR. These districts were: Kazali, Perovsk, Tashkent, Chimboy, Shurakhan, Avlyoota, Prokaspriy (Caspian Sea), Poltoratsk, Tajan, Murgab, Kattakurgan, Samarkand, Jizzakh, Khujand, Kokand, Fergana, Andijan, Pishpek, Norin, Przevalsk, Olma, Jarkent, Kopal, Lepsinsk, Tokmak, Osh, Urjar, Namangan, Chernyaevsk, Turkestan, Mirzachul [1, - p. 66.].

As the preparations for the national-territorial demarcation in Central Asia began to intensify in the beginning of 1924, in the autumn of 1924, the zoning commission under the State Planning Committee of the Turkic Economic Council proposed a three-tiered administrative method of the republic: Center – Tashkent, constituencies and district volost. During this period, there were 6 provinces, 31 districts and 590 volosts in the Turkestan ASSR, together with 12 districts and 150 district districts, together with the Pamir [5, - p. 176 - 177.]. The administrative and economic division of the Turkestan ASSR consists of 12 constituencies: Sarkan (11 volost), Almaty (16 volost), Pishpek (16 volost), Shymkent (15 volost), Syrdarya (9 volost), Amudarya (6 volost), Turkmen (8 volost), Samarkand (18 volost), Tashkent (9

volost), Kokand (18 volost), Andijan (22 volost), Pamir region (2 volost) [6, - p. 3.].

Besides Turkestan ASSR, districts were established at that time in the USSR and the PRC. For example, on October 1, 1924, by the decision of the All-Bukhara MIC, the administrative-territorial division of the USSR was reorganized and 5 districts were created in the place of provinces. The districts are divided into 15 provinces, 48 districts, 195 kents and many villages.

Zarafshan District consists of 3 provinces: Bukhara, Karmana and Nurata. It consists of 8 districts and 2202 villages.

The Kashkadarya district consisted of 2 provinces: Karshi and Shahrisabz, which have 9 districts.

There were 8 districts in Surkhandarya region.

The Turkmen (Amudarya) district consisted of 2 provinces: Karki and Chorjoui with 608 villages.

In Eastern Bukhara there were 6 provinces: Kulob, Boysun, Sariosiyo, Garm, Dushanbe, Kurgantepa with 3646 villages [4, - p. 173 - 174.].

On the eve of the Soviet zoning policy, it is also important to study the general state of the Central Asian region as an example of some constituencies. To begin with, let's talk about Tashkent District, which is administratively important in the constituencies. Although the district of Tashkent was the smallest of them, the administrative center of the district was located in Tashkent [5, - p. 3.].

On the eve of the zoning in Central Asia, the Tashkent District, which was part of the Turkestan ASSR, in the north with the Turkestan, Shymkent and Avliyota districts, north - east with Namangan district of Fergana region, Khujand district in the south, and Jizzakh in the south west, bordering the district [5, - p. 128.]. Consequently, although the territory of Tashkent district at that time was designed to centralize the administrative center, in

fact the present Republic of Uzbekistan served as the basis for the establishment of Tashkent region.

At the same time, most of the territory that entered Tashkent at that time is now part of the Syrdarya region. In the twentieth century, the territory of Tashkent district was 34.4 thousand squares\*, with a population of 635.9 thousand people. people). The average square foot in the county was 18.5 people. [5, - p.129.].

Another important part of the Turkestan ASSR was the Kokand district. Initially, it was planned to establish the boundaries of the Kokand district in the northeast of the Kokand and Namangan districts of the Ferghana region and in the Khojand district of Samarkand region. Later, the territory of Kokand district consisted of Bogcha-Isfara district, Kholand district, Volga, Pistakuz, Nov, Unji, Ural and Chankuli. The boundaries of the Kokand district began with the Avliyota district, which turned south and south-west, separating the Kokand district and the Chatkal oasis. It also extended from the Syrdarya region to the Syrdarya region of the Mirzachul District, from the Syrdarya to the Turkestan. The territory of the district is further bordered by the southern part of Samarkand and the Republic of Bukhara, in the northeast - the Fergana and Andijan districts of the Ferghana region and the Pishpek district of Semireche (Yettisuv) region in the north. [5, -p. 131-132.].

The overall situation of the Samarkand region, which had a special place in the Turkestan ASSR, is as follows. It was planned to include Bogcha-Isfara, Golakandoz, Pistakuz Nov, Unji, Ural and Chankuli Volga of Khujand district of Samarkand region, as well as southern part of Mirzachul district, Syrdarya region.

According to the Center's State Planning Commission, Samarkand district is bordered by the Turkestan region in the north and Syrdarya region, Mirzachul in the northeast, the Kokand-Fergana

region in the southeast, the Republic of Bukhara in the south-west, and the Amu Darya in the north-west.

The territory of Samarkand district during this period was 66,700 square meters. The population of the district was 674.8 thousand people, the population density was 10.1 people per square mile. As of 1923, five major cities in the county were: Samarkand (population 71456), Jizzakh (9564), Kattakurgan (10219), Uratapa (13069), and Panjikent (3145). [6, - p.125-127.].

In summary, the policy of zoning in the Turkestan ASSR was primarily economic and administrative. The Soviet authorities, in addition to the Turkestan ASSR in 1923-1924, sought to unify the economy of the entire Turkestan region and, above all, the regional zoning was aimed at restoring and developing the national economy.

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