

## KARAKALPAKSTAN AS PART OF THE RSFSR (1930-1936)

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### ANNOTATION

The article highlights one of the interesting events in the life of Karakalpakstan as part of the Russian Federation. Based on the previous historiography, introducing new archival documents into scientific circulation, the authors will try to assess the political, socio-economic and cultural state of the republic during this period.

**Keywords:** Russia, Karakalpakstan, the policy of the "great turning point", repression, culture, national economy, transport

In the early 1930s, the policy of the "great turning point" began to manifest itself with particular relief. A wave of monstrous violence also hit Karakalpakstan. Members of the resistance movement of 1929 were subjected to repression.

Under the heading "top secret", the Bureau of the Karakalpak regional committee of the CPSU (b) repressed the families of 50 people of the upper and middle strata of the Muslim clergy of Karakalpakstan and evicted them from the territory of Karakalpakstan. Among them are the families of Abdijalil Maksim Ismatullaev, Abdreim Vaisov, Sarykhan Atageldiev, Ubba Ibragimov, Bukei Maksim Ismatullaev, Khozhakmet Yernazarov, Mukhametdin Nurullaev, Khalil Ishan Atagullaev, Iniyat Ishan Bahavetdinov and others [1].

In connection with the Takhtakupyr uprising in late 1929 - early 1930s, 252 people were arrested in Karakalpakstan. 36 people were shot by decision of the troika of the OGPU [2]. More than 200 senior officials of the regional administration were expelled from the ranks of the party. In March 1930, the property of 293 households in Karakalpakstan was confiscated, and their owners were exiled from the region. In the same year, 407 people from nine districts of Karakalpakstan, mostly clergy and merchants, of which 206 bais-kulaks were expelled from collective farms and repressed. The party leadership of Karakalpakstan was accused of supporting the "right deviation" and violating the class line. Secretaries of district party committees were repressed S. Eltezerov, Bainazarov, Isakov, Tazhibaev. The heads of law enforcement agencies did not escape repression: the prosecutor of the region A. Adakeev, the former assistant to the regional prosecutor Kh. Yusupov, the former chairman of the regional court I. Orumbaev.

History shows that the leaders of the Karakalpak national movement A.K. Dosnazarov, O. Bekimbetov, I. Bekimbetov, O. Ermanov, A. Kudabaev, K. Avezov, K. Nurmukhamedov, U. and others represented "autonomy" with broad rights in a truly democratic sense of it [3]. In fact, this autonomy could not fully realize the goals and objectives of the national movement and self-determination of the Karakalpak people.

The popular uprising of 1929 was a negative reaction of the dekhkans to the policy pursued by the country's leadership in 1928-1929. It was the policy of the "great break". A policy in which party and Soviet bodies relied on the bodies of the OGPU.

The neglect of revolutionary reformers such as Goloshchekin and Varlamov to the life of the Kazakh and Karakalpak peoples, who became the "object" of transformations for them, the arbitrariness of the emissaries of the center, the violent methods of reforms carried out in the countryside, the nihilistic or hostile attitude of the "reformers" to traditional values and gave rise to popular uprising in 1929. These times remained in the memory of the people as the years of tragic and dramatic events.

On July 20, 1930, the Karakalpak Autonomous Region entered directly into the direct subordination of the central bodies of the RSFSR. Kasym Avezov was appointed permanent representative of the government of Karakalpakstan to the CEC of the RSFSR.

In the early 1930s, the question of indigenization of the state apparatus became important. In this regard, many misunderstandings occurred in the national outskirts. In many people's commissariats of the RSFSR, there were officials in the positions of responsible workers who did not know where Karakalpakstan was. On this occasion, the representative of the State Planning Commission, Professor N. Borozdin, aptly noted: "Now they are recruiting comrades who have nothing to do with the national question... Such an approach is absolutely unacceptable. We know how complex the issues of studying national minorities are. This requires the preparation and creation of authoritative comrades who know the national line" [4].

Having listened to the report of the Regional Executive Committee of the Karakalpak Autonomous Okrug, the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR, on August 1, 1931, adopted a special resolution on the economic and cultural development of the region. It was emphasized that the pace of development of the economic and socio-cultural construction of Karakalpakstan lagged behind the general pace of development of the other autonomous republics and regions of the RSFSR. The technical basis for the reorganization of agriculture was weak, and the irrigation system was underdeveloped. Animal husbandry was carried out by backward methods and was not provided with an appropriate fodder base. Measures were not taken to improve the breed of livestock and to introduce veterinary care. There were not enough specialized cattle-breeding karakul-breeding collective farms. Collective-farm construction at that time lagged considerably behind the pace of state-farm construction. Poor road construction and insufficient organization of water communications, especially access roads and railways, characterized the national economy.

The Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR rightly noted that the leadership and study of the economy of the Karakalpak Autonomous Okrug by the republican bodies of the Russian Federation is completely inadequate.

Noting the importance of Karakalpakstan in the general system of the national economy of the RSFSR as one of the most important regions of industrial crops - cotton; seed base and export value of alfalfa; bases for the development of karakul studies; fish production area in the Aral Sea; the possibility of using a vast land area for industrial crops, the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR adopted a resolution that indicates the most important events since 1931:

\* \* carry out the necessary studies to expand the Chimbay irrigation system, ensuring that the irrigated area is brought up to 120,000 hectares; to start a radical reorganization of the irrigation system of the KKAO with the restructuring of hydraulic structures and shipping hauls, to bring the mechanization of irrigation work to 30%; to ensure the adaptation of the irrigation network to the requirements of tractor processing; develop a project for the proper use of the Amudarya reservoir,

identify the possibility of raising the river level by constructing dam structures; construct a hydroelectric station in the Kyzketken canal of the Chimbay irrigation system;

\* build a new cotton gin; organize a rice state farm; to develop at least 10,000 hectares of new land under kender state farms; open four new cotton machine and tractor stations, bringing the capacity to 4,000 horsepower;

\* create a lucerne state farm with an area of 10,000 hectares; set the production task of the KKAO for 1932 for sown areas in the amount of 158 thousand hectares, including under cotton - 85 thousand hectares, under alfalfa - 30 thousand hectares; transfer to settled life at least 1000 poor and middle peasant farms from the nomadic and semi-nomadic population; bring the number of astrakhan sheep to 45,000 heads; to organize a sheep-breeding collective farm of a coarse wool direction;

\* to develop silvicultural, reclamation and sand-strengthening works in KKAO; well construction in nomadic livestock areas; to speed up the development of veterinary measures, to create an Ascoli laboratory; start organizing mulberry plantations of at least 1,000 hectares for rearing at least 8,000 boxes of corn with a production of 204 tons of cocoons;

\* to propose to the Supreme Economic Council of the RSFSR to assist in the construction of a phosphorite and oil mill; fish cannery;

\* include in the list of roads of republican significance the road "Turtkul-Nukus-Chimbay-Aral Sea" with a length of 355 km; provide for the construction of the railway line Chardzhou-Aleksandrov-Gai from 1933y.;

\* complete the construction of the narrow-line railway "Nukus-Aral Sea"; to study the issue of the feasibility of launching an icebreaker and or an icebreaking vessel to ensure uninterrupted navigation of ships in the Aral Sea in winter; to reconsider the establishment of air communication along the Moscow-Kungrad-Chardjou line; drive one car in KKAO;

\* take the necessary measures for the speedy transfer of the required number of workers to the KKAO; organize a veterinary zootechnical school with an annual intake of 80 people; open a fishing college; FZO schools; work out the issue of opening a pedagogical institute; ensure that at least 50% of the population is covered by literacy schools;

\* to find out the expediency of moving the capital of the KKAO to the Nukus point, send a special commission [5].

Many points of this resolution were implemented in 1932-1936, many remained on paper. Plans for the creation of a phosphorite plant, the construction of the Chardzhou-Aleksandrov-Gai railway, the narrow-line railway line Nukus-Aral Sea, the launch of an icebreaker, the Moscow-Kungrad-Chardzhou air line, a zoo-veterinary technical school, and a fishing technical school remained unfulfilled.

The transformation of the autonomous region into an autonomous republic played an important role in the restoration of the national statehood of the Karakalpak people. On March 20, 1932, the Presidium of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee of the RSFSR adopted a resolution on the transformation of the KKAO into an autonomous republic. The issue was raised by the Executive Committee of the Karakalpak Autonomous Region. The All-Russian Central Executive Committee of the RSFSR decided:

1. The Karakalpak Autonomous Region, in accordance with the will of its working population, to be transformed within the existing borders into the Karakalpak Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, as a federal part of the RSFSR.

2. Until the convocation of its Republican Congress of Soviets, the Karakalpak Oblast Executive Committee shall be considered the supreme authority on the territory of the Karakalpak Autonomous SSR. Who should be entrusted with convening the first Karakalpak Republican Congress of Soviets to elect the CEC and organize the apparatus of power.

3. Поручить Отделу Национальностей при Президиуме ВЦИК выработать и представить на утверждение Президума ВЦИК проект Положения о государственном устройстве Каракалпакской автономной ССР [6].

3. Instruct the Department of Nationalities under the Presidium of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee to develop and submit for approval by the Presidium of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee a draft Regulation on the state structure of the Karakalpak Autonomous SSR [6].

On March 2, 1932, an organizing commission was formed consisting of K. Nurmukhamedov (chairman), D. Loginov (deputy chairman), Doszhanov (secretary of the commission), K. Avezov, Chernikov, Ya. Zhanaliev and Sergeev [7]. On May 11, 1932, the Central Executive Committee (Chairman M.I. Kalinin) and the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR (Deputy Chairman T.R. Ryskulov) approved the Regulations "On the state structure of the KKASSR".

At the first session of the Soviets of Karakalpakstan (March 30, 1932), the Central Executive Committee was formed consisting of: K. Nurmukhamedov, Varnachev, Majitov, Nasurlaev, R. Yerzhanov, Rakhmadullin, K. Avezov, T. Churbanov, K. Allabergenov, D. Zhanaliev, Zh. Seitova, K. Sadullaev, A. Ermanov, Dosekeev, F. Usmanov, Ramazanov, Alsberg, Musaev, Morin, D. Kurbanov, Koshkarov, Abdullin, Bekbauliyev, Aiteshov, Chernikov.

On October 1, 1932, the Laws of the Central Executive Committee of the KKASSR "On the Council of People's Commissars of the KKASSR", "On the Rules of the Meetings of the Council of People's Commissars of the KKASSR", "On the Central Executive Committee of the KKASSR, the Presidium and Members", "On amnesty in connection with the transformation of the KKAO into the KKASSR" were adopted ". On December 3, 1932, the Central Executive Committee of the KKASSR at the second session of the Soviets prepared the Constitution of the Republic.

On April 21-23, 1933, the executive secretary of the regional party organization T. Churbanov, the secretaries Morin and K. Allabergenov, the chairman of the workers' and dekhkan inspection of the region Y. Dzhanaliev, the secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the KKASSR R. Irzhanov were expelled from the party and brought to justice. On May 19, 1933, the bureau of the regional committee of the Komsomol was dissolved, and its first secretary, Orazaly Kosekeyev, was expelled from the party.

A number of leading figures left Karakalpakstan: Larkin, Sokolsky, Epifanov, Karp, Kirgizbaev, Eichman, Fatov, Kirillov, Ataniyazov, K. Adinaev, T. Napesov.

At the U1 party conference (1933), a new composition of the Plenum of the Karakalpak Regional Committee of the CPSU (b) was elected: I. Aliyev, N. Saparov, Fayzinabad, D. Kurbanov, Zh. Zhaksymuratov, F. Matkarimov, Shevchenko, U. Akhmedov, Radzhapov, A. Kulenev, G. Kvachev, Metenin, Usmanov, Aiteshev, Bekmuratov, Eltezerov, Berdimuratova, Loginov, Valiullin, Dauletmuratov, Avezov, Bovgachinov, Akhmedov, Kamalov, T. Safiev [7].

The top leadership of Karakalpakstan, not agreeing with the repressions, wrote letters to higher authorities. With the skillful hands of the OGPU workers, these actions were regarded as the formation of a grouping of "bourgeois nationalists". So the following groups entered history: "four" (K.Avezov, K.Allabergenov, P.Toreev, P.Dzhanaliev); "ten" (Zh.Rakhmatullaev, B.Tazhiev, Kh.Temirkhanov,

R.Matchanov, M.Nurzhanov, Kh.Abdikhalikov, D.Ishimbetov, A.Mambedyarov, K.Shamuratov). They were labeled "enemies of the people" [8].

On December 21, 1934, the second Congress of Soviets of the KKASSR approved the Constitution of the Karakalpak Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. The constitution consisted of 17 sections and 109 articles.

Instead, the Constitution of the KKASSR, which copied the main provisions of the Constitution of the USSR of 1924 and the Constitution of the RSFSR of 1925, did not take into account the mentality of our people, national identity, originality in achieving democracy.

Great damage was done to the construction of the capital in connection with the arrest of the People's Commissar of Local Industry I. L. Vorozhtsov, who was responsible in the government for this matter, and the head of Nukusstroy, N. D. Metenin. The direct sponsors of Nukusstroy did not escape arrest - the leaders of ResPO Lunev, Karakalpaktorg Degtyarev, Efimov. People's Commissar of Trade Sokolov, People's Commissar of Health Pankratov, authorized representatives of "Zagotzerno" Vasiliev and Ambrazh were expelled from the ranks of the party and repressed.

Almost the entire composition of the political elite of Karakalpakstan - 10 secretaries and heads of departments of the regional party committee, 22 people's commissars were repressed in those years. Government officials in Nukus, in one way or another, experienced the delights of the intrigues zealously cultivated by the regime [9].

The largest was the process in the Karakalpak Industrial Transport Union. On December 15, 1934, the Council of People's Commissars of the KKASSR and the Karakalpak Regional Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks noted "a number of significant shortcomings in the work of the Industrial Union." By Decree No. 7 of February 15, 1935, the Regional Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks indicated to the Presidium of the "Promsoyuz" the immediate tasks "to cleanse from class alien elements." All-compromsoviet of the former USSR in paragraph No. 13 of its resolution of April 25, 1935. specially warned the head of "Karpromtranssoyuz" Chekhradze [10].

Specialists from the NKVD, having checked the financial economy of Promsystem, revealed that the production reserves decreased by 55 thousand rubles; accountable amounts increased by 10 thousand rubles; net loss for the 1st quarter of 1935 was expressed in the amount of 154 thousand rubles; accounts receivable as of April 1, 1935 amounted to 1,599 thousand rubles.

The auditors found the state of the transport system in the following form: "contamination of all links of the Promsystem with a class-alien element, the presence of huge embezzlement and theft in the grassroots network, the failure of all the Artels of the Promsystem to fulfill their production tasks, paper, belated management of the bureaucratic apparatus of Karpromtranssoyuz.

In the very apparatus of the Karakalpaktranssoyuz there was an impersonality, mismanagement, nepotism. Responsible employees of the "Karpromtrans" system were selected by acquaintance, the majority were proteges of the leaders of the board of Chikhradze, Deinichenko, Rakhalsky.

Specialists of the UNKVD found "direct connections" of thefts in the system of "Karpromtranssoyuz" with thefts at the Chardzhui transshipment base, where 22 employees of the base, headed by the leaders - Rodionov, Belkov, were convicted for squandering hundreds of thousands of rubles. building materials and products. To cover their tracks, the Presidium of the Kkpromtranssoyuz liquidated artels in Kipchak, Kungrad, Shabbaz, Muynak, Tamdy and Turtkul.

The situation was no better in many fishing artels of Karpromtransarteli. For three months in 1935, flour and other products were written off in the amount of more than 300 thousand rubles in the artel named after K. Avezov of the Chimbay region. on the basis of Zainchukovsky's factory manager. There

were 36 registered members in the Karauzyak artel (chaired by Reshaev), many of whom were fictitious, and there was a nepotism. Zakharov, Slesarev, Belyaev, Solonimsky, Matchanov were prosecuted for huge losses in the Khodzheylynskaya multi-promotion. In the Krasny Oktyabr artel, Mamaev and Zamanov were convicted of wasting building materials. The chairman of the Kipchak artel Zhumaniyazov disappeared. Volobuev, Podgorodetsky, Nemshaev, Suyundukov were prosecuted in the Kungrad artel [11].

In 1932, Karpromtranssoyuz united 40 artels that produced products worth 4 million 502 thousand rubles. 2075 handicraftsmen worked in artels. Starting from 1933, production fell, the number of artels decreased to 18, output amounted to 1 million 647 thousand rubles. The link of the leadership of the Promsovet to the fact that the number of artels decreased due to their unprofitability - (dwarf artels) - the NKVD investigators found incorrect. Under the brand name of "unprofitability", 22 artels were partly liquidated, and partly merged into one large artel. Such a policy led to the fact that the national economy not only did not receive a large amount of the necessary products, but also lost the base on which local industry was supposed to be built. Such crafts as carpet weaving, mining, salt mining did not work starting from 1933. The leadership of the Karpromtranssoyuz was accused of not studying the reasons for the unprofitability of individual industries, crafts and artels, detached itself from the production life of artels, and caused enormous damage to the national economy..

On November 15-17, 1936, the Third Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the Karakalpak ASSR took place in the city of Turtkul, where 172 delegates, 15 guests from the republics of the former USSR, 2 representatives of the chiefs of the Dzerzhinsky district of Moscow, 311 Stakhanovite guests participated.

Some members of the previous composition of the Central Executive Committee of the KKASSR, elected in 1934 at the second Congress of Soviets, left Karakalpakstan or were repressed. The delegates of the Third Congress of Soviets withdrew the following persons from the CEC of the KKASSR: Yeritsan, Kuliev, Kalmenov, Nurmukhamedov, Sokolsky, Sigalov, Ternikov, Litvinov, Fatov, Khrustalev, Chikhradze, Terentyev, Voronkov, Kamalov, Seytnazarov, Yakshimov, Vavgachinov.

In June-July 1936, constitutional commissions were created in all the union and autonomous republics, which prepared draft constitutions. The texts of all the constitutions of the union and autonomous republics were built according to a single system. The Draft Constitution of the USSR of 1936 provided for the entry of the Karakalpak ASSR into the Uzbek SSR. The draft Constitution of the KKASSR was developed and submitted for consideration by the Third Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of Karakalpakstan on November 15, 1936. Ten days later, on November 25, the Extraordinary VIII Congress of Soviets of the USSR opened in Moscow. The deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from Karakalpakstan had to urgently leave for Moscow, and the Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the KKASSR needed to get the go-ahead from the Center to adopt its Constitution [12].

Returning from Moscow, the deputies of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan at their extraordinary 11th Congress of Soviets (February 12, 1937) adopted a new Constitution of the Uzbek SSR.

On March 20, 1937, the Third Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the Karakalpak ASSR resumed its work. Now the deputies had samples of the new constitutions of the USSR and the Uzbek SSR. On March 23, 1937, the new Constitution of the KKASSR was adopted. The Basic Law of Karakalpakstan was approved by the Presidium of the Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek SSR in September 1937[13].

The constitutions of the Uzbek SSR and the KKASSR are similar to the Basic Law of the Union not only in content, but also in structure. All of them open with chapters on the social structure, the second

chapters are called "State Structure". The Constitution of the Uzbek SSR emphasized that the republic voluntarily united into a single Soviet Union, while at the same time retaining its sovereign rights. In the Constitution of the KKASSR, article 13 noted that the KKASSR is part of the Uzbek SSR as an autonomous republic. This provision was confirmed by articles 14 of the Constitution of the USSR and 19 of the Constitution of the Uzbek SSR. The authorities of the Uzbek SSR approved the Constitution of the KKASSR, determined the boundaries and administrative divisions. Article 16 of the Constitution of the KKASSR emphasized that the laws of the USSR and the Uzbek SSR are mandatory for implementation on the territory of Karakalpakstan. With the difference between the laws of the KKASSR and the laws of the USSR and the Uzbek SSR, priority was given to the latter. The remnants of the possibility of resisting the laws of the RSFSR, preserved in the Constitution of 1934, if they contradicted the realities of Karakalpakstan, were thus withdrawn.

\* The population of Karakalpakstan was determined in 1936 at 444 thousand people, which was according to the national composition: Karakalpaks - 37.7%, Kazakhs - 26.8%, Uzbeks - 37.3%, Turkmens - 3.1%, Russians - 3.7% and other nationalities 1.5% [14].

\* The delegates of the 3rd Congress of Soviets of the KKASSR noted the achievements of the peoples of Karakalpakstan by 1936:

\* \* created its own industry: Muynak fish and meat canning plant; Khodzheyly cotton-cleaning plant; printing house in Nukus; garment factory; woodworking factory.

\* \* Karakalpakstan has become the main base for growing high-quality varieties of alfalfa seeds. Despite floods and other natural whims, 14 thousand centners of alfalfa were given in 1936 (the plan was 18 thousand).

\* \* literacy of the population was 48%, there were 572 schools, a pedagogical institute, technical schools, clubs, libraries, theaters, cinemas, a network of orphanages, nurseries, maternity hospitals functioned, 11 schools were built only in 1936, a new capital of the republic, Nukus, was being built [fifteen].

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