

### SOURCE COVERAGE OF THE ECONOMIC CONFERENCES OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS

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#### **Annotation:**

This article tells about the economic conferences of the Central Asian republics that took place in 1923-1924. In particular, in 1923-1924 an economic conference of the Central Asian republics was held in order to establish common control over the economy of the republics of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm. As a result, the management of the economy of the republics, domestic and foreign trade, agriculture (including cotton), irrigation, transport, communications, banking and finance was transferred to the hands of the Center.

**Keywords:** Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, Bukhara, Khorezm, Tashkent, Central Asia, Economic Council, agriculture, cotton growing, irrigation, transport, communications, bank finance, RSFSR, Lyubimov, F. Khodzhaev, S. Paskutsky, Otaulla Khodzhaev.

### Аннотация:

Ўрта Ушбу мақолада 1923-1924 йилларда бўлиб ўтган Осиё республикаларининг иктисодий конференциялари хакида сўз юритилади. Хусусан 1923-1924 йилларда Туркистон, Бухоро ва Хоразм Республикалари иктисодиёти устидан умумий назорат ўрнатиш максадида Ўрта Осиё республикаларнинг иқтисодий конференцияси бўлиб ўтди. Натижада, республикаларнинг иктисодиёти, ички ва ташки савдо, кишлок хўжалиги (жумладан, пахтачилик), ирригация, транспорт, алоқа, банк-молия соҳалари устидан назорат Марказ қўлига ўтди.

**Калит сўзлар:** Туркистон АССР, Бухоро, Хоразм, Тошкент, Ўрта Осиё, Иқтисодий Кенгаш, қишлоқ хўжалиги, пахтачилик, ирригация, транспорт, алоқа, банк-молия, РСФСР, Любимов, Ф.Хўжаев, С.Паскуцкий, Отаулла Хўжаев.





#### Аннотация:

данной статье рассказывается об экономических конференциях среднеазиатских республик, проходивших в 1923-1924 гг. В частности, в 1923-1924 годах была проведена экономическая конференция среднеазиатских республик с целью установления общего контроля над экономикой республик Туркестан, Бухара и Хорезм. В результате в руки Центра было передано управление экономикой республик, внутренней и внешней торговлей, сельским хозяйством (в том числе хлопковым), ирригацией, транспортом, связью, банковским делом и финансами.

**Ключевые слова:** Туркестанская АССР, Бухара, Хорезм, Ташкент, Средняя Азия, Совнархоз, сельское хозяйство, хлопководство, ирригация, транспорт, связь, банк-финансы, РСФСР, Любимов, Ф. Ходжаев, С. Паскутский, Отаулла Ходжаев.

Due to the national independence in the Republic of Uzbekistan, not only political, economic and social development, but also wide opportunities for spiritual revival and self-realization, restoration of national values have arisen.

On March 5-9, 1923, the First Economic Conference of the Republics of Central Asia - Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm Republics began work in Tashkent. Representatives (10 representatives from Turkestan, 7 representatives from Bukhara, 3 representatives from Khorezm) were elected by the governments of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm republics to participate in the conference on top management issues. The conference was chaired by I. E. Lyubimov on behalf of the Central Asia Bureau of the Central Asian Committee of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine (b).

S. Paskutsky from the Economic Council of Turkestan, Fayzulla Khojaev from the USSR, Otajhonov from the USSR gave the main lectures about the economic situation of each republic at the conference. In addition, first Ivelev, then I.E. Lyubimov gave a lecture on the general financial situation of the region.

The main issues, the economic situation of the republics, domestic and foreign trade, agriculture (including cotton), irrigation, transport, communication, banking and finance issues were given in the lectures. In general, at the conference held in Tashkent, Paskutsky, Ivelev and Lyubimov supported the proposal to unify the regional economy in all areas. F. Khojaev and Otajhonov opposed this idea based on the local conditions and realizing that the management of the region is being transferred to the hands of the Center. As an example, in his speech, F. Khojaev



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sharply criticized I. Lyubimov's opinion that the financial system of the three republics should be united and transferred to the Center. Otajhonov concludes his opinion and states that the economic unification of the republics should not have a serious impact on Khorezm agriculture.

Finally, at the last meeting of the conference on March 9, 1923, a decision was made to economically unite the republics of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm, and the Central Asian Economic Council was established in Tashkent.

The Presidium of the Central Asian Economic Council consisting of 10 people was formed at the conference. A representative from the RSFSR (I.E. Lyubimov), 4 representatives from Turkestan (I. Khidiraliev, S. Paskutsky, Pribitkov, T. Riskulov), 3 representatives from Bukhara (Otaulla Khojaev and others), 2 representatives from Khorezm (Yakubov, Sarsonboev) were elected to it. As the chairman of the Central Asian Economic Council, the chairman of the Turkestan Economic Council S. Paskutsky was appointed.

The Economic Council of Central Asia adopted the following decision based on its authority to economically unify the republics of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm:

Summarizing the currency units of the USSR, the USSR and the RSFSR, replacing the existing currencies of the republics with Russian currency units, according to which the currency exchange operations had to be completed by May 1923. For this purpose, the national currency of the Bukhara and Khorezm republics was exchanged for the Russian ruble in May and August 1923 in accordance with the instructions of the Central Asian Economic Council (in the ratio of 10 Khorezm soums to 1 Russian ruble, 3.5 Bukhara soums to 1 Russian ruble).

The republics of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm had to develop their state budget and submit it to the Central Asian Economic Council. The developed plans had to comply with the regulations of the Finance Committee of the RSFSR. For example, the USSR and the USSR had to allocate a separate item for the supply of the Red Army in their territories when devoping their state budgets.

In the field of taxation, all taxes existing in the RSFSR have been introduced in the territory of the USSR and the USSR, as well as the abolition of all local taxes not specified in the constitution and agreements.

Considering land as the main focus of the Economic Council of Central Asia, based on the experiences of land and water reforms in the Republic of Turkestan, the following tasks have been set for the purpose of land and land use in the Republics of Bukhara and Khorezm:

Adopting a new land code based on the economic capabilities of the republics of Bukhara and Khorezm, using the experience of the TASSR Land Committee for this



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purpose. Based on the above tasks, in accordance with the instructions of the Central Asian Economic Council, the new Land Code was adopted at the IV All-Bukhara and All-Khorazm congresses of the republics of Bukhara and Khorezm in October 1923. According to the new land law, private ownership of land was abolished and all land was declared the property of workers and peasants.

One of the main works in the field of irrigation was the correct distribution of the water of the Zarafshan River between Bukhara and Turkestan. For this, one representative from the water management agencies of both republics was brought to Samarkand, and he worked on the distribution of water based on the instructions of the Central Asian Economic Council.

In the field of cotton, the tasks of organizing a seed fund and supplying quality seeds, expanding cotton fields, establishing state control over cotton enterprises, purchasing all types of cotton fiber, oilseeds, accurately calculating all exported cotton raw materials and reporting this to the Economic Council was placed.

Based on this decision, first of all, all cotton ginning factories were transferred to the state, and in order to restore cotton cultivation and expand cotton fields, farmers were given wide privileges. In particular, they were provided with working tools and working animals, seeds, exempted from taxes, water was first given to cotton fields. In the end, restoration of Bukhara and Khorezm cotton production and establishment of control over it was transferred to Rus-Bukhara and Rus-Khorazm cotton company. In addition, a number of decisions on internal and external trade, transport, communications and the fight against "printing" were adopted at the conference.

In this way, the Central Asian Economic Council established general control over the economy of the Republics of Turkestan, Bukhara and Khorezm. The Economic Council received instructions on its activities from the Council of Labor and Defense of the USSR.

On the initiative of the Central Asian Economic Council, the Second Economic Conference of the Republics of Bukhara, Khorezm and Turkestan was held in April-May 1924. At the conference, representatives spoke about the results of economic reforms in the republics during the past year. Mejlauk, the representative of the Turkestan ASSR, spoke first and gave a speech about the one-year activity of the Central Asian Economic Council.

After that, the chairman of the government of the USSR, F. Khojaev spoke about the state budget of 1923-1924 and noted that the total profit was 4,205,000 soums (455 thousand rubles). A separate budget was drawn up for Eastern Bukhara, where the profit was 784 thousand soums. In addition, F. Khojaev gave the following information about State trade. In 1923, sales of goods abroad and purchases from



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abroad amounted to 8 million rubles. For 1924, it is planned to make 16-18 million rubles. For this purpose, it is envisaged to take wholesale and retail trade under state control. Because 90% of domestic trade was taken over by individual traders. For this, it is planned to increase the number of trade and cooperatives. The number of members in trade and cooperatives in the republic was 50-60 people.

In terms of cotton farming, 30,000 acres of American cotton are planned to be planted in the season of 1923-1924, and in cattle breeding, it is planned to supply 500,000 cattle skins in 1923-1924.

In 1923, the amount of livestock in the BXSR was as follows: horses 53,500, camels 18,200, cattle 328,700, donkeys 102,800, goats 366,000, sheep 1,701,000 (robber sheep 869,000, local sheep 832,000). The total amount of livestock was 2,570,000 heads.

Shulimov from the USSR spoke and talked about the economic reforms in 1923 in the fields of finance, trade, cotton growing, and irrigation. In particular, he pointed out that the main part of domestic and foreign trade in the country is in the hands of private entrepreneurs, the total cost of trade cooperation is 13 thousand rubles, and it is impossible to develop domestic trade with this amount. Also, as a result of the fact that the existing trade organizations in the republic focused all their attention on cotton raw materials, products such as wool and alfalfa were not sold abroad.. State control of domestic and foreign trade is envisaged in the USSR.

The irrigation system was different from BXSR and TASSR, water was released to the fields through pipes, which required a lot of work. Therefore, he came up with a proposal to mechanize the irrigation system to develop new lands and release water to them. Because irrigating each acre of land with a hose costs 83 tiyani, while irrigation by means of pumps is 49 tiyani.

The government of the USSR allocated 500,000 rubles from its funds for an agricultural loan. 23 agricultural companies will be established from this amount and 210 thousand rubles will be allocated for this purpose. But the allocated funds did not arrive on time.

After that, the representative of the USSR Q. Otaboev spoke and stated that in his speech Comrade Mejlauk pays more attention to the activities of the Economic Council of Turkestan than to the Central Asian Economic Council, and it is felt that he has a superficial knowledge of the economy of the other republics.

"One example is that the unified tax system is difficult in the USSR and the USSR compared to Turkestan, and the representatives of the government are not working seriously in this regard," Mejlauk said. But he doesn't know that there are separate taxes called ushr and zakat in the USSR, and that the sudden cancellation of these





taxes will cause discontent among the people, and in Khorezm, the people revolted against the new tax system," said Q. Otaboev at the end of his speech.

Q. Adinaev from the USSR spoke and said that a large amount of cotton raw material was not sent to Russia in the Amudarya region. According to him, as a result of the arrival of new cotton raw materials after three months, the old raw materials will be sent to the Center at a low price, and the farmers will suffer from this. He asked that the council take into account the fact that there is no telephone and telegraph communication at all.

The Central Asian Economic Council focused on the restoration of the Karshi-Termiz, Karki-Termiz railway lines. These two lines were supposed to connect West Bukhara and East Bukhara. For this purpose, 14 million rubles have been allocated by the Economic Council.

In general, at the end of the conference, the Central Asian Economic Council made a number of decisions in the fields of cotton growing, irrigation, cattle breeding, land works, internal and external trade, transport, communication, banking and finance.

In conclusion, at the economic conferences of the Central Asian republics, the representatives of the local people worked for the benefit of the republics, while the representatives of the Bolsheviks tried to subordinate the regional economy to the center.

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