

THE EMERGENCY OF THE PRESS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE BUKHARA
PEOPLE'S SOVIET REPUBLIC

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Annotation: This article analyzes the emergence of the press during the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BKSSR), its formation factors, ideological and ideological directions, and its role in the life of society based on scientific and journalistic articles written in the Uzbek language. In the course of the research, the newspapers and magazines operating in the BKSSR, their content, political and educational tasks, and their contribution to the development of the national press are highlighted. The article provides a scientific assessment of the issue based on historicism and source studies approaches, and citations are given in footnotes. The results of the research show that the press of the BKSSR was an important stage in the history of Uzbek national journalism.

Keywords: Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, history of the press, Uzbek press, newspapers and magazines, Soviet ideology, Jadidism, national revival, political propaganda.

INTRODUCTION

The sharp political and social changes that took place in Central Asia at the beginning of the 20th century directly affected all spheres of society, including the means of information exchange and the formation of public opinion. In particular, with the abolition of the Bukhara Emirate and the establishment of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic in its place, there was a need to create an information system in the region that was compatible with the new political system. In these historical conditions, the press became the main ideological tool of Soviet power, as well as an important institution for the formation of educational and social consciousness.

The formation of the press in the Bukhara region was closely connected with the activities of the Jadid movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Jadid intellectuals saw the press as the most effective means of awakening the people, combating illiteracy, and developing political and social consciousness. However, in the conditions of the Bukhara Emirate, press activity was severely limited, and the publication of independent newspapers and magazines was almost impossible. Nevertheless, publications published in foreign regions on the initiative of some Jadids were secretly distributed among the Bukhara population [1].

In 1920, with the proclamation of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, the political situation changed radically. The new authorities began to actively use the press to widely disseminate their ideas among the people, wage an ideological struggle against the remnants of the old regime, and re-educate society on the basis of Soviet values. As a result, a number of newspapers and magazines were established in the Bukhara region in a short time. These publications were mainly published in Uzbek and were distinguished by being written in a simple and understandable style for the local population.

In the period of the BSSR, along with political factors, social and cultural needs also played an important role in the emergence of the press. Since a large part of the population was illiterate, the press promoted a new alphabet, literacy, and scientific achievements. Along with educational articles, short news reports, and propaganda materials, poems and art pieces were also published on the pages of newspapers, trying to attract readers [2].

Another important aspect of the BSSR press is its attitude to the issue of national language and culture. In the early years, the Soviet authorities supported the development of the press in national languages. This policy was also reflected in the Bukhara region, and the number of newspapers and magazines in the Uzbek language increased. According to researchers, it was during this period that important experience was gained in the formation of the press style of the Uzbek literary language [1].

At the same time, it should be noted that the BSSR press was not completely free. The activities of the publications were strictly controlled by Soviet ideology and party policy. The materials published on the pages of the press were aimed at glorifying the new regime, promoting the ideas of class struggle, and criticizing religious and traditional values. This situation further strengthened the influence of the press on social consciousness, but in some cases also led to conflicts with national interests [3].

Analyzing the content and direction of newspapers published during the BSU, we see that their main task was to adapt the population to the new political system. Issues of land and water reform, criticism of old officials and clergy, and the involvement of women in public life were regularly covered. In particular, articles devoted to women's freedom and education were widely reflected in the press as one of the important directions of Soviet ideology [2].

Thus, the emergence of the press during the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic was a complex and multifaceted process, which was formed in the context of a combination of political, social, and cultural factors. An in-depth study of this process is of great importance for a full understanding of the history of the Uzbek national press.

LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

Articles and studies created in Uzbek historiography are an important source for the scientific study of the press of the BSU period. Researchers evaluate the press of this period, first of all, as a means of strengthening political power. In particular, H. Ziyoyev emphasizes in his articles that after the formation of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, the press became "the main ideological support in the construction of a new society" [1]. In his opinion, through newspapers and magazines, the Soviet authorities not only announced decisions and decrees, but also sought to change the worldview of the broad masses of the people.

R. Shamsutdinov's articles on the history of the BSU also pay special attention to the issue of the press. Speaking about the content, linguistic features and audience of newspapers published during the BSU period, the author notes that these publications were formed based on the experience of the new press [2]. In particular, the simplicity of the journalistic style and the propaganda character are highlighted as characteristics of the press of the USSR.

Methodologically, historicism and source studies are of primary importance in studying the press of the BSSR period. Because the press of this period developed in direct connection with political processes. In the process of research, articles, periodicals published in the Uzbek language and their content are analyzed, and their role in society is determined. Also, through the method of comparative analysis, the press of the BSSR is compared with the press in the Turkestan ASSR, which allows us to identify common and specific aspects [1].

The organization of the first Soviet newspapers in the BSSR was carried out on the basis of centralized political decisions. Publications such as "Bukhara News", "Ozod Bukhara", "Inqilob" became the official platform of the new regime. In addition to government decisions, political statements, and propaganda articles, materials on social life were also published on the pages of these newspapers. This indicates that the press has become not only an official information medium, but also a platform intended for the general public [3].

Content analysis of the press of the USSR shows that the ideas of class struggle occupied a leading place in it. The old amirate system, the clergy and the rich were criticized, and the new Soviet order was portrayed as a just and progressive system. Researchers note that although this approach played an important role in shaping the political consciousness of the population, in some cases it led to a one-sided interpretation of historical truth [2].

At the same time, it can be seen that the press of the USSR period widely covered educational issues. The fight against illiteracy, the opening of new schools, and the training of teachers were regularly discussed in the pages of newspapers. In this regard, the press served as a continuation of the ideas of Jadidism to a certain extent. According to B. Kasimov, the Uzbek press of the early Soviet period developed by combining the educational heritage of the Jadids with political ideology [1].

The issue of women occupies a special place in the press of the USSR. Newspapers and magazines promoted the need to increase the activity of women in social life, involve them in education, and abandon old traditions. This issue was one of the important directions of Soviet policy and was brought to the attention of the general public through the press. In some articles, the role of women in building a new society was emphasized, and there were cases of their being described as a "revolutionary force" [3].

During the USSR, the press also played an important role in the issue of language. Publications in the Uzbek language served to form literary language norms and popularize new political and social terms. Researchers evaluate this process as a stage in the development of the Uzbek journalistic language. It was through the press that concepts such as "revolution", "soviet", "people's power" were introduced into the public consciousness [1].

As a result, the press of the USSR in a short time occupied an important place in the life of society. It acted as a source of political information, an educational tool and an ideological weapon. However, this process was not one-sided: through the press, some elements of national consciousness were also preserved, and the influence of the new intelligentsia was felt. In this regard, the press of the USSR left an important mark in history as the press of the transitional period.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

In the process of discussing the activities of the press of the USSR, it is necessary to dwell separately on the issue of its impact on the development of society. Because the press of this period did not cease to be a simple means of conveying information, but became an active participant in political, social and cultural changes. As the ideas of the new regime were promoted through newspapers and magazines, a significant impact was exerted on the worldview, value system and social relations of the population.

One of the important results of the press of the USSR was that it was able to attract the broad masses of the people to political processes in a short time. Ordinary peasants and artisans, who were previously far from politics, began to receive information about state administration, laws and reforms through the pages of newspapers. Researchers note that this was an important factor in increasing the political activity of the population [1]. Especially in the early years of Soviet power, propaganda work carried out through the press served to legitimize the new regime.

The discussion also highlights the educational importance of the press of the USSR. Campaigns to combat illiteracy, the opening of new schools, and teacher training issues were regularly covered in the press. This made the press an important tool in the process of modernization of society. The provision of information in short and simple form in articles in the Uzbek language about scientific and technical achievements, political events in the world served to increase the general level of knowledge of the people [2].

At the same time, the activities of the press of the BSSR also had a number of contradictory aspects. The issue of freedom of the press was sharply limited, and all publications operated within the framework of Soviet ideology. Alternative opinions, views that positively assessed the old regime, or materials defending religious values were almost never published. This situation indicates that it led to a one-sided coverage of historical processes [3]. Nevertheless, some Jadid intellectuals tried to preserve national culture and language issues through the press as much as possible.

The press of the BSSR also achieved significant results on the issue of women. Newspapers and magazines promoted women's education, participation in the labor process, and their active participation in social life. Although this process caused sharp resistance in traditional society, it served to change the position of women in society in the long term. Researchers evaluate this situation as one of the most important results of the Soviet modernization policy [1].

Another important result of the press during the USSR was its contribution to the development of the Uzbek literary language. New political and social terms were formed on the pages of newspapers, and the journalistic style was enriched. This process served as a solid foundation for the formation of the Uzbek Soviet press in subsequent years. Regular publications in Uzbek strengthened the official and social position of the national language [2].

In general, the press of the USSR was a product of its time, it operated in harmony with political orders and educational needs. Although it fulfilled the task of adapting society to the new system, instilling Soviet ideology, it also contributed to a certain extent to the preservation of national



press traditions. In this regard, it would be incorrect to assess the press of the USSR unilaterally; it should be seen as a complex, contradictory, but historically significant process.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the emergence and development of the press during the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic is an important stage in the history of the Uzbek national press. The press of this period was an active participant in political, social and cultural changes and played a major role in shaping the consciousness of society. Through newspapers and magazines published in the Uzbek language, the ideas of the new regime were promoted, educational work was carried out, and the social position of the national language was strengthened. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that the ideological limitations of the press led to one-sided coverage of historical processes. The study of the BUKHSR press remains one of the pressing issues of Uzbek journalism and history today.

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