ECONOMIC COOPERATION OF THE BUKHARA PEOPLE'S SOVIET REPUBLIC WITH THE USA

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Annotation: This article covers the history of economic 4elations with the USA in 1922-1923. The Representative Office In the BPSR's Transcaucasia cooperate with the USA "Transcaucasia Trading", "Gershkovich and Son" firms. Under pressure from Soviet foreign trade organizations, trade relations ended.

Keywords: BPSR, The Transcaucasia, Sales-representative, "Transcaucasia Trading", "Gershkovich and Son".

Introduction. The issues of strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation, interethnic harmony and wide-ranging cultural cooperation are of special importance in the domestic and foreign policies of the world countries. This process makes it necessary to study the history of economic and cultural relations of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic in 1920-1924 on the basis of scientific principles.

Suggestions. During the Soviet period, the topic of foreign relations was not sufficiently studied and it was interpreted one-sidely. The researches of foreign and Uzbek historians have studied the socio-political processes that took place in Bukhara in the early 20 century, the struggle against Soviet rule, and the issue of foreign relations has been left out of the scope of research. An objective assessment of the history of Uzbekistan and its territory during the Soviet period was began during the years of independence. The history of BPSR was studied by K. Rajabov, F. Kasimov, S. Inayatov, U. Rashidov, Sh. Khayitov, S. Badriddinov, K. Rakhmanov.

Foreign and Uzbek researches did not study the history of the external relations of BPSR. This article uses scientific research methods such systematization, comparative analysis, analysis and synthesis, as well as problem-chronological. As a result of the first scientific circulation of materials of archival documents stored in the periodicals of the BPSR and the funds of the Central State Archive of the republic of Uzbekistan, information on the relations of the BPSR with US trade organizations was revealed.

As a result of gaining state independence of Uzbekistan, our republic has become a full-blooded subject of international relations. This process raises the issue of scientific coverage of the history of foreign relations of not only Uzbekistan, but also the countries in its territory during the Soviet era, as one of the most pressing issues. Consistent and systematic reforms taking place in Uzbekistan today, especially the huge changes in foreign policy, make it necessary to study the history of international relations on a scientific basis.

One of the unexplored issues of the history of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BPSR) in 1920-1924 is the history of economic and cultural relations of the republic with the Soviet republics, Eastern countries and Western Europe and the United States. This issue was

interpreted in the Soviet era on the basis of one-sided, dominant ideological models. The relations of cooperation of the USSR with the western countries were not covered at all in the historical literature of the Soviet period. After the independence of Uzbekistan, a lot of work has been done to cover various issues of the history of the USSR, based on research methods widely used in the world history. The research of foreign researchers and Uzbek historians focused on the socio-political processes that took place in Bukhara in the early twentieth century, the struggle against Soviet rule. The issue of foreign relations of the republic was left out of the scope of research. However, despite its historically short existence, the government of the USSR pursued a very active foreign policy. The goal of the USSR government in political, economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation with foreign countries was "to lead the people to free life, economic freedom, the development of culture of the people who have been enslaved by the emirate for centuries" [1.1922, July 8, № 89].

Despite the fact that the foreign policy of the USSR was carried out within the framework of agreements with the Soviet government, Bukhara tried to establish broad cooperation with the Soviet republics, Afghanistan, Turkey, as well as developed countries of the West. The Republican government has paid special attention to establishing economic and cultural ties with Western Europe and the United States. The leaders of the USSR government were well aware that one of the conditions for getting rid of Soviet colonialism was the establishment of a modern national economy in Bukhara, the establishment of broad cooperation with the advanced countries of the world. Despite the dominance of Soviet state bodies over the domestic and foreign policies of the USSR, as early as 1921 the issue of attracting foreign capital, primarily German capital, for the industrial development of the republic's natural resources was discussed at the governmental level {2. Page 38}. One of the most important conditions for the creation of the foundations of a modern national economy in Bukhara was the introduction of advanced machinery in agriculture, the establishment of a processing industry. Before the First World War, the Emirate of Bukhara exported its valuable raw materials, such as karakul leather, liquorice root and other products, to the European market, mainly to Germany. After the establishment of a protectorate over Bukhara, the emirate's economy was subordinated to the interests of the Russian Empire. Foreign economic relations of the Emirate of Bukhara were carried out through Russia. The First World War, the coming to power of the Bolsheviks in Russia in 1917, and the civil war that began in Russia in 1918 disrupted traditional Bukhara-Russian trade relations. Due to the war, the volume of industrial, food and fuel products imported from Russia to Bukhara fell sharply. Since 1919, as a result of the shortage of goods and the need for a market for its raw materials, "Bukhara trade capital has entered the Afghan-Indian market. Foreign industrial products entered Bukhara. In 1920, the emirate in Bukhara was abolished, and the Soviet regime began to be established rapidly. The Soviet government's policy of "military communism" was in stark contrast to the interests of the people of Bukhara and the new government's economic plans. Although the government of the USSR was forced to work on domestic and foreign policy issues within the framework of agreements with the Soviet government, it continued to take measures to establish mutually beneficial cooperation with foreign countries.

In the spring of 1921, as a result of the transition to a new economic policy in the economy of the RSFSR, economic restrictions were lifted, and foreign firms and foreign capital began to enter the country's economy. First of all, the possibilities of establishing broad economic cooperation with the developed countries of Western Europe and the United States were explored. For the USSR, the Transcaucasia region was to act as an exit bridge to Western European and U.S. markets. In order to establish economic relations of Bukhara with European countries, on December 15, 1921 it was decided to open branches of the Bukhara foreign trade department in Baku, Batumi, Tbilisi {3. Page 191}.

The Soviet government, which had established economic relations with the RSFSR and the world's major trading centres, implemented economic and technical cooperation with Western Europe and the United States, primarily through its trade divisions established in the Trans Transcaucasia Federation. The Tbilisi branch of the USSR Trade Representation operated from November 4, 1922 to September 15, 1923, and the Batumi branch from December 9, 1922 to September 7, 1923 {4. Page 27}.

The sales departments of the Trans Transcaucasia, operating in Baku, Tbilisi, and Batumi, have established cooperation not only with public and private firms here, but also with Western European and U.S. firms with offices in the Trans Transcaucasia. The trade representative office focuses on the introduction of steam and electric machines in Bukhara agriculture, the export of livestock products to foreign markets not as raw materials, but as finished products. In the economic policy of the government of the USSR, the issue of concessions to countries with advanced technology in the use of Bukhara's natural resources for the development of the country plays an important role [5. Page 68].

The trade departments of the USSR in the Transcaucasia have done some work in establishing trade and technical cooperation with the industrialized countries of Western Europe and the United States. In early 1923, the trade mission of the USSR in the Transcaucasia further expanded economic cooperation with foreign countries. The trade mission of the USSR has established economic relations with the countries of Western Europe, such as Sweden, Italy, France, England, as well as with the trade and industrial circles of the United States. The shortterm economic cooperation of the Trade Representation of the USSR in the Transcaucasia with the United States, which operates in the Transcaucasia, was one of the most important areas. During this period, all the expenses of the Soviet military units in Bukhara were borne by the government of the USSR. The trade representative office in the Transcaucasia was involved in the purchase of clothing from foreign partners in exchange for Bukhara products for Soviet soldiers involved in hostilities. Representatives of the trade organization appealed to the US firm in this regard. Cooperation with the sales departments of the Transcaucasia in the USSR was initiated by the US firm Transcaucasia Trading Corporation. The US-based Transcaucasia Trading Corporation, headquartered in New York and headquartered in Istanbul and Batumi, is offering to deliver 2,000 military uniforms to the port of Batumi within 60 days. His representatives told the trade department of the USSR in Tbilisi on October 22, 1922, that 2,000 American-made military uniforms could be sold to the USSR for \$ 9 each. {6. Page 67}. On October 26, 1922, Levinson, a representative of this American company, announced that a total of 388 pairs of Vera boots would be sold for \$4.5, and a boot called "Itboshi" for \$5.5. In the Transcaucasia, this American corporation organized the sale of "Tretta" ginning equipment, "Emerson" tractors and other agricultural equipment necessary for the Bukhara national economy {7. Page 18}. The above-mentioned equipment played an important role in the processing of agricultural products grown in Bukhara, an agrarian country.

In early 1923, the scope of cooperation of the Transcaucasia trade departments of the USSR with foreign countries expanded. American partners have shown great interest in sweets and karakul leather products grown in Bukhara. Demand for the above products in the Transcaucasia market has been steadily increasing. For example, on January 24, 1923, a pound of candy (1 pound equals 16 kilograms) in Batum cost 5,5 rubles. The trade mission of the USSR was obliged to carry out relations with foreign cooperation under the control and participation of Soviet foreign trade bodies. Representatives of the US Trade Corporation held talks with "Rosgostorg" (Russia's state agency for foreign trade) on the issue of exporting karakul leather products grown in Bukhara to the American market. Negotiations on the introduction of foreign concessions in the economy of the BPSR also began {8. Page 102}.

The famous karakul leather of Bukhara is an important product in the foreign trade relations of the trade representative office of the USSR. Demand for it in the markets of Western Europe and the United States is high and constantly growing. The popularity and value of this product in foreign markets even attracted the attention of Soviet foreign trade representatives. The Transcaucasia branch of the Soviet Foreign Trade Organization held talks with German businessmen on the issue of bringing Bukhara karakul to the US market. As a result, on February 9, 1923, an agreement was reached between the Transcaucasia branch of "Rosgostorg" and German trading companies to sell Bukhara karakul skins worth 500,000 gold rubles at auction in the American market with the direct participation and control of Soviet traders. {7.Page 102}.

Other American trade organizations have also expressed interest in bringing Bukhara karakul leather products to the US market. In particular, in March 1923, the New York-based firm Albert Gershkovich and Son applied to the Baku branch of the trade representative office of the USSR with an offer to purchase karakul leather products. On March 19, 1923, the trade representative office in the Transcaucasia sent a letter to the head of the Bukhara Trade and Industry Department, to I.Izomshoev {9. Page 125}.

If the terms of the agreement between the two parties were fulfilled, the USSR would have benefited in the amount of 2,000 gold rubles if the USSR trade mission had delivered karakul skins to the New York firm Gershkovich and Son on March 15, 1923 {10. Page 58}.

In order to expand cooperation with the US firm, the Bukhara trade representative office met in Baku on July 12, 1923 with the representative of the firm K. Weisleyb signed a contract with Bukhara for the purchase of karakul leather. According to him, a price of 4 lira 45 piastres will be set for each piece of karakul leather, and a total of 17,818 pieces of karakul leather will be sold. However, the norms set by the Soviet state for foreign trade contradicted the economic interests of the USSR, and the high definition of Bukhara products exported by the representative office to foreign markets created difficulties in its sale. In addition, foreign partners had to transfer the money paid for the product not directly to the account of the representative office, but to the account of Rosgosbank's branches in the Transcaucasia. The trade mission of the USSR asked the head of the Georgian government addresses Sh. Eliava. As a result of Eliava's active intervention, the karakul leather sold on August 29, 1923, was exported to the U.S. market duty-free, paying 14,000 liras and 300 chervonets, or 10 rubles per pound. {9. Page 248}. It was planned that 50% of the 8,570 chervonets paid for the product would be transferred from the Dutch bank in Istanbul to Rosgosbank's Tbilisi and Baku branches {11. Page 85}.

After the formation of the USSR, as a result of the policy of a totalitarian state, the limited foreign relations of the republics that were not part of the USSR were fully transferred to the jurisdiction of Soviet state organizations. As a result, strict control was exercised over the activities of the trade representation of the USSR in the Transcaucasia, and cooperation with foreign firms was carried out by Soviet representatives.

For example, on July 6, 1923, the trade representative of the USSR met with a representative of a U.S. firm, a representative of Russia D. Soyfer mediated negotiations on the sale of karakul leather. Representatives of Bukhara set the price at 3 dollars 10 cents, while the buyer set the price at 2 dollars 60 cents. The foreign buyer proposed to make the payment in US dollars, not in Russian currency {7. Page 127}.

The Bukhara trade representative office also faced a number of financial difficulties. There have been cases where funds for the delivered product have been left in various banks for a long time. To solve such cases, the trade representatives of the USSR had to turn to Soviet financial institutions. For example, in August 1923, the deputy head of the trade mission of the USSR, Borinsky, the head of the Batumi branch of "Rosgosbank", received a US citizen K. Weisleyb asked for help in this matter, stating that the 8,570 chervonets he had to pay for the karakul skin remained in the Dutch bank in Istanbul. {11. Page. 77}.

K.Weisleyb by trade representatives of the USSR. The 8,622 chervonets to be paid for the 12,333 karakul skins sold to Weisleyb were to be transferred to the Batumi branch of the State Bank of Russia, and the Bukhara Trade Representation's cooperation with foreign firms was managed by the RSFSR People's Commissariat of Finance {7. Page.45}.

Despite all the difficulties, the export of karakul leather to the American market continued. On August 10, 1923, the trade mission of the USSR sold 17,818 karakul skins to a US firm for 58,577 Turkish lira, and the product was shipped by German ship "Pontos" {7. Page.45}. The interest of American trade and industry in Bukhara livestock products has expanded. However, bilateral cooperation was mediated by Soviet representatives. On August 30, 1923, the US firm "Gershkovich and Son" filed a lawsuit against the "Vneshtorg" representative to S. Shermazov. He was a representative of the Baku Trade Department of the USSR. Ratner is a U.S. citizen. Weisleyb reports that he applied for the purchase of 10 pounds of goat skin {12. Page.62}.

The trade mission of the USSR was dependent on Soviet organizations in the field of transport. Soviet transport organizations prevented Bukhara products from being exported. In particular, on July 23, 1923, 17,808 pieces of karakul leather, which were to be sold by the Bukhara Trade Representative Office to the American Trade Union, were stopped for 9 months in the Baku branch of "Dobroflot" (13. Page 63).

Foreign organizations were forced to send money for Bukhara products to the Russian state bank. The financial dependence of the trade mission of the USSR led to the deterioration of relations between the parties. For example, on August 10, 1923, the trade representative office of the USSR asked the Batumi branch of the State Bank of the RSFSR to transfer 58,577 Turkish liras, which had to be paid for 17,818 pieces of karakul leather sold to a US company, to the representative office by August 31. Director of the trade representative office of the USSR "Albert Gershkovich and son" K. Weisleyb was required to pay 30% of the contract of April 18, 1923, 10,000 Turkish lira for breach of contract on July 12, and 5,000 Turkish lira for the storage and shipment of karakul leather {13. Page 17}. In this regard, the Plenipotentiary Representative of the USSR N. Saidjanov appealed to the representative office

of the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade of the RSFSR in the Transcaucasia to help the US firm collect the fine {11. Page 54}

As a result of the strengthening of the symbols of the totalitarian state in the USSR, the scope of the USSR's foreign economic relations with foreign countries narrowed. The Soviet government, through its agreements with foreign countries, set out to completely end the foreign relations of the USSR. Article 5 of the draft trade agreement between the USSR and the USSR concluded with Afghanistan on October 8, 1923 provides for measures to exclude products made in England and India from the Bukhara market. {14. Page 20}. As a result of this agreement, the USSR began the process of terminating economic cooperation not only with Afghanistan, but also with Western European countries and the United States through the Transcaucasia. In the summer of 1923, the Baku, Tbilisi, and Batumi branches were forced to close down as a result of the full control and pressure of Soviet state organizations over the trade representation of the USSR in the Transcaucasia. Despite its historically short history, foreign trade, financial and transport dependence on the Soviet government, the trade mission of the USSR in the Transcaucasia has done much to establish economic cooperation with a number of Western European countries and US trade and industry. Although the goal of bringing Bukhara products to the American market has not been fully achieved, the first steps have been taken.

Conclusion. We believe that the scientific study of the history of cooperation between our peoples is also useful for our economic and cultural cooperation today. We hope that in the further development of the developing partnership between Uzbekistan and the United States, reference to the history of our cooperation will play an important role in identifying new directions and aspects of relations.

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