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#### BRIEF ESSENCE OF FAMINE IN THE ASSR IN TURKESTAN

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#### **Abstract**

In this article, hunger, which is the basis of the social life of the population of Turkestan after 1917, and the fight against it, the emergence of famine as a result of the violation of state management processes in the social life of the people of the Turkestan region during the First World War of the Russian Empire, and the actions taken against it movements are recorded.

#### **Keywords**

Decree, Soviet economy, famine, military communism, card system, committee, monopoly, food distribution.

The 20th century is very important in the history of world nations. This century is rich in complex and multifaceted events of the process of social development, major changes in all aspects of human life and the system of international relations.

The study of this rich and controversial history of Uzbekistan in this period is of great importance in the rise of national consciousness, the formation of feelings of patriotism and loyalty to the motherland, the cohesion of the nation, and the upbringing of the young generation in the spirit of respect for our unique historical traditions and the past of our people.

The approaching question is very, very complicated for us. Trade relations of a country with a labor system with countries with a capitalist economy should be determined not only by benefits, often of a financial nature, but also by a number of other conditions. We must say that foreign trade is unreliable and necessary. It is unreliable and necessary, because the Soviet economy is not yet fully self-sufficient, and on the other hand, the Russian Republic produces surplus products that can be sold [1.4].

We would like to emphasize that the famine that covered all of Russia in 1917-1923 increased the number of unemployed, starving, and orphaned children in cities and villages. As a result of the fact that this negative social process has



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escalated in Turkestan, half a million people died of hunger in Kokand and Margilan districts, and 1 million people in Fergana region, or in Samarkand and Jizzakh provinces with a total population of 200 thousand. It is worth mentioning that 70% of the population died of hunger.

It was the expropriation of private property by the Soviet authorities that worsened the economic situation in the country. Lands, gardens, small businesses were abandoned, inventory and equipment were vandalized or stolen. The main problem on the agenda of the government remained the supply of bread to the cities. On the basis of the introduced card system, bread and other food products were distributed according to the established standards. The derailment of industry affected the barter system, making it unprofitable for farmers to bring grain and agricultural products to the city.

The rapid increase in the price of food and consumer goods led to the devaluation of money. New rates of monthly salaries were developed every three to four months [1.66].

By this time, the food problem had become one of the most a cute problems in the Turkestan ASSR. The Bolsheviks imposed strict measures to confiscate grain and other food stuffs from the local population. In January 1918, a food department was opened under the Turkestan Regional Committee, and it was given great rights [2.568].

On June 15, 1918, a food directorate was established in Turkestan to provide food to city residents and military soldiers. The state established its own monopoly on grain and food products and began to take away the surplus of fodder, horses, and cattle from the peasants. Soldiers and food squads took the farmers to the wheat stock that was taken away for seed, and they did not give them the sabot products that should be given instead, representatives of the local population from 16 to 55 years old were involved in forced labor. This policy of the Soviet government was named "Military Communism" policy. Under the policy of military communism, the purchase of daily necessities such as salt, kerosene, soap, cottonseed oil, cloth, matches, etc. became a problem [3.42].

In August 1920, under the pressure of V.V.Kuybyshev and F.I.Goloshchekin, members of the Turkestan Commission under the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR, a decision was made to introduce food distribution in the territory of the Republic of Turkestan. Food distribution turned into open looting of the population, increasing social tension. Historian A. Nurullin writes that "at the end of 1920, only workers formed



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42 food-gathering detachments, there were 3,000 people in these detachments" [4.130].

As a result, farmers hide, bury, and use as soon as possible wheat reserves, and cattle breeders slaughter their surplus cattle, sheep, and camels.

This situation has led to further increase in food shortages. In order to get out of this situation, government control bodies were established, decrees and orders were issued, and a card system was introduced.

We would like to point out that the above analytical thoughts caused the people of Turkestan to protest, and some demonstrations led to a tragic situation.

In particular, on June 4, 1919, TurMIQ decree No. 160 on the establishment of the "Bread Products Monopoly" was adopted. Due to the events of Orenburg, the Turkestan region was cut off from the Center for 6 months, and there was a shortage of bread in the country. Although the decree coincided with the wheat harvesting season, the documents of the decree stored in the archives stipulate that the surplus wheat of the previous year should also be handed over [5.40].

It was noted that bread products were brought to Samarkand from the regions of Bukhara and the Caucasus when there was a shortage of bread products, and from Samara and Orenburg after the railways were put into operation [6.340].

In accordance with the decree "On class bread allowance", the card system was introduced in Turkestan. The entire population was divided into three categories: Class I workers, red soldiers and responsible employees 1 pound per day (1 pound - 409.5 grams), Class II servants, menial workers half a pack (205 grams), Class III workers and the bourgeoisie a quarter pack (102 grams) of bread [7.22].

It would be appropriate if the issues of food and famine in the Turkestan ASSR were studied more deeply through the funds R-25, R-31 of the National Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the materials of the periodicals "Экономическая жизнь", "Наша газета".

The severe consequences in the social and economic sphere are also reflected in the food crisis. As a result, commodity-monetary relations were derailed. The sale of bread and wheat is restricted. As a result of the further devaluation of money, workers' wages were paid in kind. Public dissatisfaction with food rations grew, and by 1921 the Soviet authorities were forced to replace food rations with a natural tax.

The Republic of Turkestan is surrounded by countries with which trade can be carried on very profitably. The fact is that China (in the neighboring part), Bukhara, Persia and Afghanistan - the extractive industrial countries - countries that have the richest raw materials and flow with them, we can produce operations, the net



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exchange of manufactured products for raw materials, Given the devaluation of the Russian ruble, this is very useful and convenient. In this regard, it is necessary to take urgent measures to nationalize the foreign trade of the Republic of Turkestan [9.4].

At the same time, the products imported from the neighboring countries of Iran and Afghanistan of the Turkestan ASSR in the period from September 16, 1922 to December 31, 1922 were reflected as follows:

- 5000 kilograms of wheat, 5620 kilograms of potatoes, 1250 kilograms of tea, 2000 kilograms of poppy seeds, 12000 kilograms of cotton from the Persian state;
- It can be seen that 20 kilograms of cotton, 1120 kilograms of raw (unprocessed) leather, and 2 carpets [10.1-3] were brought from Afghanistan.

After the establishment of Soviet power in Turkestan, the economic policy of the Bolsheviks further strained the acute economic situation in the region, which was on the verge of famine, and made it difficult to solve the food problem, leading to popular discontent. In Turkistan, the lack of food products and high prices caused a severe famine, and many farms were destroyed. With the onset of famine, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of Turkestans, mainly representatives of the local population, fell victim to it and many of them died, but it can be noted that such a situation did not occur among the representatives of the European population. Therefore, it was emphasized on the basis of the sources that the a fore mentioned famine in Turkestan was able to expres the historical roots of the failure to provide social protection to the population of the country.

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