

HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CONGRESSES OF SOVIETS OF TURKESTAN

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ABSTRACT:

The article describes in detail the changes in the political situation in Turkestan after the February Revolution, the emergence of political forces on the way to building the foundations of a new society in the country, in particular the Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, and their activities for state power and administration through their congresses.

Keywords: February Revolution, Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, Shura-i-Islam, congress, constitution, Turkestan ASSR, Central Executive Committee of Turkestan, Councils of People's Commissars of Turkestan.

INTRODUCTION

As a result of the democratic revolution in Petrograd on February 27, 1917, Emperor Nicholas II was overthrown, and he abdicated on March 2 (15). With the end of the monarchy system, the social and political situation in Russia changed dramatically, and in February-September 1917, a joint form of parallel power and management systems was decided, which was divided between the Provisional Government and the Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies.

RESEARCH METHODS

This article is covered on the basis of historical methods such as scientific objectivity, historicity, logical coherence, comparative analysis, chronological consistency. Materials collected in historical literature and sources, periodical press and archival documents were used to clarify the essence of the issue.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The democratic revolution that took place in Petrograd on February 27, 1917 made it possible to politically awaken the indigenous population of Turkestan and change the social environment. As a result, new political forces began to emerge in society. Jadids, who are representatives of the country's intellectuals and advanced national progressives, have become the main link of the emerging national-democratic forces. Nevertheless, Soviets of Workers' Deputies and Soviets of Soldiers' Deputies have joined the ranks of new political forces in the matter of power and its management in Turkestan. Such Soviets began to be formed in Turkestan under the influence of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies at the beginning of March 1917, and by the end of that month the number of these Soviets reached 75. But the deputies elected to these Soviets were mainly representatives of European nations. At first, members of the Esers (Socialist Revolutionary Party), Cadets

(Constitutional Democratic Party) and Mensheviks parties formed the majority in the Soviets, but later the Bolsheviks and Left Socialists gained a leading position. In addition to these Soviets, Soviets of Peasants' Deputies (initially organized in Tashkent *ujazds*) also began to operate in the *ujazds*.

Simultaneously with these Soviets, Muslim Workers' and Peasants' Soviets, created on the initiative and under the leadership of Muslim scientists and *jadids*, also operated in the Turkestan region. They began to form new national political organizations in order to ensure unity of action in their meetings and lead the political struggle of the masses. The first such organization was "Shura-i-Islam" ("Council of Islam", founded on March 14, 1917 in Tashkent).

But the subsequent development of political events shows that in the struggle for power, the Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies (later, i.e., at the end of 1917, were renamed the Soviets of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies) gained the upper hand. In particular, with the adoption of the declaration "*on the establishment of power*" on November 19, 1917 by the III regional Congress of Soviets of Turkestan, the foundation of Soviet power was laid in the country. According to this declaration, the Soviet of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies was considered the supreme authority of the country, and it was renamed the Soviet of People's Commissars of Turkestan [1]. After that, the strengthening of the Soviet system in the country was started through the Congress of Soviets.

With the transfer of all power into the hands of the Soviets in the Turkestan Republic, Soviets, Congresses of Soviets and their executive committees were created in the form of central and local bodies of state power and administration. According to the administrative-territorial structure of the republic, the *volost*, *ujazd*-city, *oblast* Soviets and their congresses formed local bodies, the central power in the whole republic belonged to the Congress of Turkestan Soviets.

According to the Constitution of the Turkestan ASSR, which was approved by the VI Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan on October 15, 1918, all power belonged to the Turkestan Congress of Soviets of Workers', Soldiers' and *Krestyans*' (Peasants', *Cossacks*') Deputies (clause "d" of paragraph 5) [2]. This situation was reflected in Article 28 of the new version of the constitution of the republic adopted on September 24, 1920.

In 1917 - 1924, the Congress of Turkestan Soviets were convened 12 times, and they functioned in the form of a plenary session. It is also determined that 1 delegate will be elected from 25,000 people. Sections are organized at congresses [3].

According to the Constitution of the Turkestan ASSR, the Congress of Turkestan Soviets should be called at least twice a year by the the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan, and the Extraordinary Congresses are to be are called by the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan on its own initiative or at the request of the Soviets of the local population, which make up at least 1/2 of the entire population of the Republic of Turkestan. During the period between Congresses, the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan was considered the highest authority in the republic.

In addition to the political, social and economic spheres, important issues of the cultural and educational life of the republic were discussed at the congresses of the Soviets of Turkestan. These processes can be seen in the table below.

№	Activity cycle
1.	<p><i>The First regional Congress of Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies</i> was held on April 7-15, 1917 at the "Freedom House" in Tashkent. The congress was attended by 263 delegates, including five Muslims.</p> <p>Agenda: attitude to the war and the Provisional Government, the forms of administration of Russia, the organization of the provisional administration of the country and other issues [4].</p>
2.	<p><i>The Second regional Congress of the Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies</i> took place in Tashkent from September 30 to October 10, 1917. It was attended by 97 delegates.</p> <p>Agenda: September events in Tashkent, election of the regional council, establishment of the regional government, election of representatives to the Constituent Assembly [5].</p>
3.	<p><i>The Third regional Congress of Soviets of Turkestan</i> was held in Tashkent on November 15-22, 1917. 114 delegates took part in the congress. Among these delegates there were several representatives of the local population. On November 16, as a result of the addition of the National Congress of Soviets of Peasant Deputies to this congress, it was named the National Congress of Soviets of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies.</p> <p>Agenda: Organization of territorial authority, formation of power in places and elections to the Constituent Assembly [6].</p>
4.	<p><i>The Fourth (extraordinary) regional Congress of the Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies</i> took place in Tashkent on January 19-26, 1918. 126 delegates took part in it.</p> <p>Agenda: Report of the Councils of People's Commissars of Turkestan, Autonomy of Turkestan, regional and local government organization, financial issues, unemployment related to army demobilization, organization of army (socialist spirit), current political situation, organization of land committees, etc. [7].</p>
5.	<p><i>The Fifth Congress of Turkestan regional Soviets</i> was held in Tashkent from April 20 to May 1, 1918. 263 delegates, including 50 representatives of local nations, took part in its work.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report of the Councils of People's Commissars of Turkestan: a) nationalization of industrial enterprises; b) fight against famine, unemployment, epidemics, crime; s) the situation of the Red Army; d) reorganization of the land-water committee; 2. The issue of the situation in the current year; 3. Reorganization of power in the Turkestan region [8].</p>

6.	<p><i>The Sixth extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan</i> was held in Tashkent on October 5-14, 1918. 439 delegates took part in the congress.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report on the current situation; 2. Constitution of the Republic of Turkestan; 3. Republic defense; 4. Economic situation and economic policy of the Republic; 5. State budget and financial policy; 6. Report of the Central Committee and the Council of People's Commissars; 7. Election of the Central Committee of the Republic [9].</p>
7.	<p><i>The Seventh extraordinary Congress of the Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan</i> was held on March 7-31, 1919 in the building of the "Colosseum" theater in Tashkent. 245 delegates took part in it.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report on the current situation; 2. Economic policy and economic situation of the Republic of Turkestan; 3. The budget and financial policy of the Republic; 4. Report on the work of the Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars; 5. The issue of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkestan; 6. Election of the new members of the Turkestan Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars[10].</p>
8.	<p><i>The Eighth Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan</i> was held in Tashkent from September 6 to October 4, 1919. A total of 232 delegates participated in the congress.</p> <p>Agenda: 1) reports of local representatives on the general political situation of the localities; 2) report on the current situation; 3) report on the activity of the Central Executive Committee of the republic; 4) reorganization of the central government of the Republic of Turkestan; 5) mutual relations between administrative agencies and party bodies; 6) reports of sections; 7) Election of members to the Turkish Central Executive Committee[11].</p>
9.	<p><i>The Ninth Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan</i> was held in Tashkent on September 19-25, 1920. 211 delegates participated in the congress, 106 of them were representatives of the local nation.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. The issue of the status of the current year; 2. Report of the Presidium of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan and the Council of Commissioners; 3. Economic policy of Turkestan. Reports: a) Central Council of National Economy, b) Additional report on Transport, c) Food Commissariat, d) Land Affairs Commissariat, e) Finance Commissariat; 4. Election of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan; 5. Election of delegates to the Congress of All-Russian Soviets[12].</p>
10.	<p><i>The Tenth Congress of All-Turkistan Soviets</i> was held in Tashkent on August 21-25, 1921. A total of 360 delegates took part in it.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan and the Council of People's Commissars; 2. Economic policy; 3. Land policy; 4. Food tax</p>

	and cooperation; 5. National issue; 6. Election of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan [13].
11.	<p><i>The Eleventh Congress of All Turkestan Soviets</i> was held in Tashkent on December 2-6, 1922. A total of 278 delegates (7 of them women) participated in the congress.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report of the Turkestan Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars; 2. Economic situation of the republic and the report of the Turkestan Economic Council; 3. Public education; 4. Court structure and court legislation; 5. Report of the Central Commission for Aid to the Red Army; 6. Election of the Turkestan Central Executive Committee; 7. Election to the All-Russian Congress of Soviets [14].</p>
12.	<p><i>The Twelfth Congress of All Turkestan Soviets</i> was held in Tashkent on January 1-8, 1924. A total of 356 delegates (226 of them representatives of local nations) took part in it.</p> <p>Agenda: 1. Report of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan; 2. Report of Turkestan Council of People's Commissars and Economic Council; 3. Finance-tax issue; 4. Report of the People's Commissariat of Land Affairs; 5. Additional report of the Committee of Cotton Works related to the development of cotton; 6. Report of the People's Commissariat of Education; 7. Report of the Central Commission to help the Red Army; 8. Report on formation of national military units; 9. Election of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan; 10. Election of delegates to the All-Russian Congress of Soviets [15].</p>

The analysis of the materials of the first 1st, 2nd and 3rd Congresses of the Soviets of the Turkestan region shows that they mainly reflected political processes and social issues related to the acquisition of power in the country between political forces.

At the Fourth (extraordinary) regional Congress of the Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, great attention was paid to the issue of Turkestan Autonomy, and the congress opposed to the government of "Turkestan Autonomy" ("Kokand autonomy"), which was established at the 4th extraordinary Congress of Muslims of All Turkestan held in the city of Kokand on November 26-28, 1917.

The Congress has not found its full solution to the issue of autonomy. However, after this Congress, the Soviet government set about destroying the "Kokand autonomy". Military operations began and his career was ended. With this, the distrust of the people of the country towards the Soviet government increased, and based on this and other factors, armed actions against the Soviets began.

At the 5th Congress of Turkestan regional Soviets were approved "*Regulations on the Turkestan Soviet Federative Republic*". In it, the Territory of the Turkestan region is declared the Turkestan Soviet Republic of the Russian Soviet Federation.

Based on this regulation, the permanent supreme legislative body of the republic - the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan was established. At the end of the congress, its

composition was chosen. However, a representative of the indigenous population was not elected as the head of this body.

At the 6th extraordinary Congress of the Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan, the first constitution of the republic, published in Russian, was adopted on the basis of the All-Russian Constitution. According to it, the right to manage and use the lands, waters and underground resources of the Republic of Turkestan was given to the RSFSR. Following the principles of classism in the constitution, many representatives of social strata and categories of Turkestan society, especially large (owners of private land) owners, religious leaders, etc., were excluded from the state administration system.

The 7th Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan adopted a total of 23 decisions and resolutions related to the life of the republic compared to the other congresses. Most of the documents adopted by the Congress were mainly focused on strengthening Soviet power in the Republic and regulating the activities of authorities. In this Congress, a general resolution on the activity of judicial bodies was adopted, in which, for the first time, great attention was paid to the introduction of a single people's (soviet) court in the country on the activity of courts in Turkestan, and Muslim courts were also allowed to operate. But their work was reduced. At the same time, decisions were made in the field of cotton and agriculture.

It should be said that during the activities of The 7th Congress, the faction of the Bolsheviks and the faction of "left" Esers joined together.

As a result, a one-party system began to take hold in Turkestan. From April 1919, the Communist Party became the only party in Turkestan. The functioning of a single political party ensured the peak of the administrative-command system in the Republic. This situation negatively affected the activities of subsequent Congresses.

The 8th Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan mainly discussed political and administrative issues. It was decided to abolish the Soviet of Commissars, and instead of the Soviet of People's Commissars, the Soviets of Defense, Culture and National Economy (Economic) were established.

The "Regulation on the Unified Labor School" was approved in the congress. In accordance with this need, all the schools of the Turkestan SSR, which are under the jurisdiction of the People's Commissariat of Education, except for higher educational institutions, received the name "Unified Labor School".

The 9th Congress of Soviets of the Republic of Turkestan focused its activities mainly on social and economic issues. The thesis on the issue of land was also adopted at the Congress, and private ownership of land was abolished. At the 9th Congress, a new Constitution of the Turkestan Soviet Republic was adopted.

In it, the name of the "Soviet Republic of Turkistan" was changed to "Soviet Socialist Republic of Turkistan (TSSR)".

At the 10th Congress of All Turkestan Soviets, great attention was paid to social and economic issues. In particular, in the resolution "Food issue and cooperation", the main law

of the Republic of Turkestan on replacing the food tax with a food tax, that is, the New Economic Policy (NEP), was approved.

At the 11th Congress of All Turkestan Soviets, the restoration of agriculture, the development of important technical crops, first of all, cotton and cattle breeding, was determined as the basis of the republic's economic work. Inomjon Khidiraliev was elected as the chairman of the Central Executive Committee of Turkestan, elected at this congress. The Congress adopted a resolution based on the report of the People's Commissar of Education and increased the amount allocated to public education from the Turkestan budget by 20 percent.

In January 1924, the 12th Congress of All Turkestan Soviets discussed political, economic, cultural and educational issues. However, the proposals and decisions made and accepted at the congress were not fully implemented, and in fact, they remained only on paper. According to the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan SSR on September 16, 1924, national territorial delimitation will be carried out in Central Asia. This ended the activity of the republic.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be said that the congresses of Turkestan Soviets, as the highest authority of the country, differed from the congresses of the Communist Party of Turkestan. Between 1917 and 1924, these assemblies put first-class issues of state importance on the agenda. As in Russia, the congresses focused on the establishment and strengthening of the Soviet system in the country's political situation, state power and administration, adopted the constitution, discussed social, economic, cultural-educational and other issues.

Decisions made on the basis of discussions had an impact on various sectors of society. However, the leadership of Bolshevik delegates in the congresses and their efforts to make decisions based on the interests of the proletariat dictatorship had a negative impact on the congresses. As a result, many errors and omissions were made. In particular, in the matter of power, the inclusion of mainly European representatives in the government, Soviet-style "autonomy", that is, the declaration of the autonomously governed Russian Soviet Federation as the Turkestan Soviet Republic, and later changing the name of the republic to the "Turkistan Soviet Socialist Republic (TSSR)" can be examples of this.

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