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Research Article

# COVERAGE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF ALL-BUKHORA CONGRESSES OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES IN THE PERIODICAL PRESS (1920-1924)

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### **ABSTRACT**

The article is devoted to the activities of the congresses of people's representatives of the All-Bakhara. Along with the formation of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic and the establishment of state power in it, these congresses were of great importance in solving current issues of the socio-economic and cultural life of the republic in 1920-1924. The article describes the activities of the congresses on the basis of materials of the periodical press.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BPSR), congress (kurultai), people's representatives, constitution, the Council of People's Nazirs (Ministers), the Central Executive Committee (CEC), periodical press.

#### INTRODUCTION

Congresses (kurultais) of people's representatives of All Bukhara as the supreme authority in the history of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BPSR) are of great importance. Between 1920 and 1924, these congresses were convened five times, and their activities were regularly covered in the pages of Turkestan and Bukhara periodicals as one of the most relevant topics of the day.

It is known that in September 1920, the emirate regime was overthrown by the soviet army in Bukhara. As a result, the monarchy was abolished in the emirate. At the meeting held in Bukhara on September 14, 1920, the All-Bukhara Revolutionary Committee consisting of 9 people (Central Revkom, chaired by Abdulkadir Muhitdinov) and the republican government consisting of 11 people - the Council of People's Nazirs (Ministers) were formed.

With the rapid development of political processes, the competition between existing forces for political power in the state administration system has intensified. As a result, the establishment of a republican form of government in the lands of the

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former emirate began; for this, a constituent congress (kurultai) of people's representatives of All Bukhara was convened, which would determine all power in the country as the supreme power of the republic. To this end, a commission was formed to convene the first constituent Congress. The 1st meeting of this commission was held on September 17, 1920.

According to the Turkestan periodical press, on October 2, 1920, this issue was discussed in the Central Committee of the Bukhara Communist Party, and the date for the opening of the founding congress was set for October 5, 1920 [1]. But the congress was opened on October 6, and 2,000 delegates took part in it [2].

It should be said that important reports on the activities of the congress of people's representatives of All Bukhara was also covered in the Bukhara periodical press, in particular, on the pages of the national press, namely the "Bukhoro akhbori" ("Bukhara News") newspaper. If we talk about this newspaper, it is the press organ of the Central Executive Committee (CEC) of the BPSR, and its first editor was Mahmud Said Ahrari (1895-1931). Published between 9 September 1920 and 12 October 1923, it came out in Uzbek literary language, with a reformed Arabic spelling. It was published under the name "Ozod Bukhara" ("Free Bukhara") from October 16, 1923 to October 1930.

In the article published in the 5th issue of the "Bukhara akhbori" newspaper in 1920 under the heading "The first kurultais of Bukhara" reflected this process as follows: "On Thursday, October 6, 1920, the first congress (kurultai) of free Bukhara was held at the residence of the emir "Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa". Representatives from all cities and villages of Bukhara were present at the congress. ... The meeting was announced at half past eleven in the afternoon by Comrade Abdulkadir Muhitdinov, Chairman of the Central Revolutionary Committee of the Bukhara

Government Committee" [3]. According to the information given in the newspaper, a total of 1894 delegates participated in the congress. The agenda of the congress was published in the 9th number for 1920 of the newspaper "Bukhara akhbori", which included the following issues: 1 - Bukhara revolution. 2 - General political situation. 3 - About the organization. 4 - Duties of the new government [4]. Focusing on organizational issues, congress made a decision on the creation of state power. The congress also decided to declare Bukhara the People's Soviet Republic [5. -P.302]. According to the state structure, it was a people's democratic republic.

According to the headline "The second kurultai of the Bukhara Soviet Republic" in the 9th issue for 1920 of the Bukhara Akhbori newspaper, On September 18, 1921 in Bukhara - in Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa, the 2nd congress (kurultai) of people's representatives of All Bukhara began work at 4 o'clock in the evening [6]. Congress was opened by the chairman of the Bukhara Revolutionary Committee A. Mukhitdinov (1892 - 1934). After the congratulatory words, in the first meeting, the congress elected its presidium consisting of 21 deputies.

The following issues are included in the discussion of the agenda of the congress: report on the current moment, government report, military issue, education issues, report on economic policy, national question (turkmen question), adoption of the Constitution of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, reports from the field, elections of the All Bukhara Central Executive Committee [7].

On September 23, 1921, the 2nd congress (kurultai) of people's representatives of All Bukhara adopted the first Constitution of the BPSR. The adoption of the constitution ensured the strengthening of the rights and freedoms of citizens in the republic by law. Reflecting the specific local conditions at that time, the

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constitution allowed the citizens of the republic the right to unrestricted disposal and use of the goods they bought and inherited, that is, the form of private property was preserved. In addition, it gave the citizens of the republic the right to engage freely both individually and by joining shirkats (agricultural cooperatives), societies, and companies. It also unconditionally recognized the equal rights of men and women, as well as citizens of all nationalities, freedom of speech, press, assembly, and rallies. According to article 5 of the Constitution of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, the supreme state power of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, both in the center and in the localities, in its entirety and indivisibility belongs to the All Bukhara Kurultai - the All Bukhara Congress of Soviets of People's Deputies, which meets periodically, after certain periods, to discuss and resolution of all issues of paramount national importance related to the general administration of the country. Article 16. This congress (elected from the regional kurultais) consisted of 350 members, with one representative elected for every 2,000 electors [8]. The congress was convened once a year and with the end of the work of the congress, the term of deputy powers ends.

According to archival documents, the 3rd congress (kurultai) of people's representatives of All Bukhara opened on August 15, 1922 in Bukhara - Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa [9]. The first meeting of the congress was opened by Muinjon Aminov, chairman of the All Bukhara CEC. M. Aminov also proposed to elect the chairman, deputies and secretary to the meeting. According to the proposal, Fayzulla Khojayev was elected chairman, Aminov was elected the first deputy, Kori Yoldosh was the second deputy, and Fitrat was the secretary [10]. In the 97th issue of the newspaper "Bukhara akhbori" for 1922 (under the heading "Great and historical days. The third general people's kurultai of the Bukhara Soviet Republic"), the agenda of the

congress was covered and the following questions were included in it: 1) Report on the current situation (speaker Fayzulla Khojayev); 2) The report of the All Bukhara CEC (reporter Muinjon Aminov); 3) Report of Bukhara Council of People's Nazirs (reporter F. Khojayev); 4) On the New Economic Policy (speaker Muinzhon Aminov); 5) State Bank (speaker Musajon Saidjonov); 6) Republican budget (speaker Musajan Saidjonov); 7) Land issue (speaker Khoja Safo Zhoraboev); 8) "Bosmachilik" movement (speaker Kory Yoldosh Polatov); 9) Red Army (speaker Yusufzoda); 10) The issue of amending the Constitution of the BPSR; 11) Sending the commission to Eastern Bukhara; 12) Giving awards; 13) Election of the All Bukhara CEC; 14) Report from the surrounding area (places); 15) The issue of Health Affairs [11].

Information about the activities of the 4th congress (kurultai) of people's representatives of All Bukhara was covered in the 1st, 2nd, 4th issues of 1923 of the "Ozod Bukhara" newspaper [12]. According to newspaper reports, this congress was inaugurated on 11 October, 1923 in Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa at 11 am. The following issues were included in its agenda: 1. Report of the All Bukhara CEC (speaker Porso Khojayev); 2. Report of the emergency inspection commission; 3. Report of the Bukhara Council of People's Nazirs (speaker F. Khojayev); 4. Budget issue (speaker A. Muhitdinov); 5. The issue of education (speaker M. Saidjonov); 6. Land issues; 7. The endowment issue (speaker A. Abdusaidov); 8. About taxes (speaker Hasanov); 9. Agricultural credit (speaker A. Muhitdinov); 10. About cooperation (speaker Arslan Khojayev); 11. Turkmen issue (speaker Annageldi Omonov); 12. Kyrgyz-Kazakh issue; 13. Information about Eastern Bukhara; 14. Report on military affairs; 15. Creation of Soviets; 16. Election of the All Bukhara CEC [13].

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In the 143rd issue for 1924 of the "Ozod Bukhara" newspaper (under the heading "5th All-Bukhara kurultai of soviets"), materials related to the activities of the last 5th congress of people's representatives of All Bukhara are given. In accordance with the article, this congress was opened on September 19, 1924 in Bukhara (Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa) at 9 o'clock in the morning, and 23 people were elected to its presidium. The agenda includes the following six items: 1. Report of the All Bukhara CEC; 2. Report of the Bukhara Council of People's Nazirs; 3. The issue of national demarcation of Central Asian republics; 4. State budget; 5. Division of BPSR lands; 6. Election of representatives to the All Uzbek Congress [14].

It should be said that on September 19, 1924, the 5th congress of people's representatives of All Bukhara adopted the decision to transform the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic into the Bukhara Soviet Socialist [15. –P.156]. The formation of the Bukhara SSR meant that the principles of democracy were abolished in this country, and it was officially replaced by the path of socialism. November 18, 1924, based on the joint decision of the Central Executive Committees of the Bukhara SSR, the Turkestan ASSR, and the Khorezm SSR, they transferred their powers (chaired by F. Khojayev) to the Provisional Revolutionary Committee of the Uzbekistan SSR. Thus, as a result of the national territorial delimitation in Central Asia, the Bukhara SSR was abolished and its territory was forcibly included in the newly formed republics.

### **CONCLUSION**

Thus, from October 1920 to September 1924, congresses of people's representatives of all Bukhara were called five times. According to the information given in the periodical press, many important issues related to the socio-political, economic and cultural life of the republic were put in the center of attention of these meetings, and the decisions made on the basis of discussions showed their political-ideological impact on all aspects of the society.

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