



## “TUJJOR” IS THE FIRST SPECIALIZED PUBLICATION IN THE HISTORY OF THE UZBEK PRESS

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### ABSTRACT

In this article discussed based on clear facts and evidence about The first specialized publication in the history of the Uzbek press is the “Tujjor” newspaper, why its editor Saidkarim Saidazimboy founded the newspaper, the newspaper regularly provides information not only on economics, but also on politics, Islam, and the daily life of the population.

**KEYWORDS :-** “Tujjor”, Saidkarim Saidazimboy, newspaper, the press, manifest, дума (duma is a Russian assembly with advisory or legislative functions. The term comes from the Russian verb думать (dumat) meaning "to think" or "to consider"), message.

### INTRODUCTION

The press plays an important role in the development of society and the state. If we look at the historical processes, to this day it has gone through a long stage of development. The first independent periodicals in the Uzbek language appeared in Tashkent during the First Russian Revolution of 1905-1907. It was undoubtedly an important historical event in the social life of the country. Confused by the revolutionary movement, the tsarism (Russia's political system at the turn of the 20th century was known as tsarism. Russia's tsarist government was one of the most backward in Europe. It was one of the few remaining autocracies where all political power and sovereignty were vested in a hereditary monarch) was forced to give way to the press in the shadow of various reforms, to ensure freedom of speech, at least in part. The

intelligentsia took advantage of this and obtained permission from the tsarist administration to publish periodicals. The first socio-political and literary periodicals in Uzbek were published in Tashkent. With the help of these publications, Muslims have the opportunity to get to know each other better and learn more about the various processes taking place in the world. The Muslim press has given great impetus to some sections to consolidate their knowledge and to others to engage in public affairs, literature or pedagogical activities. The organizers, editors, and leading authors of the periodicals established at that time were mainly the ideological leaders of the Jadid movement that emerged in Turkestan in the early 20th century, as well as local industrialists. In particular, Saidkarim Saidazimboy from Tashkent in 1907 founded a special newspaper the “Tujjor” for “merchants” (we will comment on this in the article, because the newspaper is not intended only for merchants). Saidkarim Saidazimboy was



one of the greatest merchants of his time. Nevertheless, he was educated and enlightened. He wanted the people to be educated and aware of the world news. That is why he decided to publish this newspaper. The “Tujjor” is the first specialized publication in the history of the Uzbek press. The newspaper has been published once a month for two years. 36 issues of the newspaper were published, but to date 18 issues of the newspaper have been preserved. In the first issue of the newspaper on August 21, 1907, Saidkarim Saidazimboy wrote the main article named after “The reason for the establishment of the “Tujjor” (“Sababe ta’sise tujjor”) and it was explained the reasons for publishing this newspaper. This article will clarify many of the interrogative sentences questions under questions. It is the greatest courage to take on this difficult task in difficult circumstances. Saidkarimboy also said, “If I express my intention and impartiality, my goal is not to have a personal interest in the newspaper, but to serve my nation as much as I can. I know, as everyone knows, that the people who published the newspaper suffered a lot”[1]. The editor said, “The press is like a mirror of the world, the world of the press is a just ruler of humanity, in the eyes of which the king, the beggar, the poor, the rich, the stranger, the acquaintance are equated”. The press is an ocean without borders. Everyone used it according to their needs. In addition, its power is unparalleled. The author emphasizes that “The press is a general preaching, which is carried out from city to city, from village to village, promoting the culture and enlightenment of the people”. From these thoughts we can see that the author was able to feel in his heart that the press is the most powerful force to awaken the people. He applauded the proclamation of a manifesto by Tsar Nicholas in 1907, noting that its publication also benefited the people of Turkestan, resulting in the publication of fifteen newspapers.

However, he said that since most of them were Turkish and Tatar, not all Turkestans could read them, so it was necessary to publish a newspaper in pure Chigatoy language. In 1906, Ismail Obidov and Munavvarkhon Abdurashidkhonov agreed to publish the “Taraqiy” and “Khurshid” newspapers, but they were stopped due to opposition from the government. Saidkarimboy describes the situation as “Muslims in Turkestan have been left speechless and deaf without a meaningful press”. We have mentioned above that it is a difficult task to publish a newspaper, and below we have stated the reasons for publishing the same newspaper: “No matter how many rights and needs the people have, no one can be achieved without a newspaper, because the modern press It is a time when everyone demands their rights religiously and secularly, their needs nationally and financially through the press alone”. For these reasons, Saidazimboy founded the “Tujjor” with all due care. According to archival sources, a large Uzbek businessman, Saidkarim Saidazimboy, published a newspaper in Tashkent called the “Tujjor” [2]. The editor also said he was far from going against the government. Given the difficult situation, he had no choice. It was clear in that confusing and controversial situation that the newspaper would not be published without such remarks.

Abdullah Avloni, in his article named after “History of the Former Uzbek Periodical Press” (“Burungi o’zbek vaqtli matbuotining tarixi”) said that the newspaper was published by a really big businessman, Saidkarim Saidazimboy, and that 36 issues were published, serving only wealthy traders [3]. However, based on the main article in the first issue, we can safely say that the newspaper served not only the owners, but also the needs of the people, and based on the evidence, the information provided by Avloni and others about the newspaper “served the interests



of the rich." Although the newspaper is published under the name "Tujjor", in addition to commercial issues, it covers socio-economic, political and cultural processes, feuilletons and interesting events. Saidkarimboy said: "The newspaper informs Muslims about various useful and exemplary articles, socio-political events in Turkestan, news from all sides, events in the police station and other courts" [4]. His pages also contain articles by Jadids such as Munavvarqori and Mahmudhoja Behbudi. The main purpose was to raise the political awareness of the population. For example, articles such as "Duma meeting of Tashkent" ("Toshkand dumaxona majlisi"), "Duma and Turkestan" [5] ("Duma va Turkiston"), "Opening of the Duma" ("Dumaning ochilishi") and "Meeting in the Duma of Tashkent" [6] ("Toshkand shahrining dumaxonasida bo'lg'on majlis"), "State Duma News" [7] ("Gosudarstvennuy duma xabarlar"), "Speech of Sirtlonuf" [8] ("Sirtlonufning nutqi") provide information about the processes in the political life of the country. The population was informed about the world news through the column "The situation of the Emir of Afghanistan Mr. Habibullah" [9] ("Afg'oniston amiri janob Habibullaxon ahvoloti") and "Foreign News" ("Xorijiy xabarlar"). In addition, the "Telegram News" ("Telegram xabarlar") column covered the news of the newspaper's local correspondents, and the "Internal News" ("Doxiliya xabarlar") column covered the news of the region. The newspaper also pays special attention to religious, artistic, medical, military and educational processes. In this regard, we can cite the example of an article published by the editor "City Tashkent in the second Ramadan" ("Shahri Toshkand ikkinchi ramazon") and its continuation "Tashkent 22 Ramadan" ("Toshkand 22 ramazon") which analyzes religious views.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Tujjor is not just a newspaper that covers economic processes; it also informs traders about the trade processes in the provinces and cities, and the prices of various goods. Only in this way did the editor emphasize that the newspaper served the merchants, and at other times acted in the public interest. In its publications, the newspaper analyzes the various processes and changes in the region and the world, and constantly tries to keep customers informed about this. Unsurprisingly, the editor had to introduce the newspaper as a specialized publication so as not to hinder the publication of the newspaper in that difficult situation. Based on the above facts, we can safely say that the main purpose of the newspaper is to educate the population and expand their religious and secular worldview. The right newspaper was forced to close due to a shortage of readers, but that cannot be a reason for us to conclude that it was of low quality. Given the complex times, the extreme fear and danger of the people, as well as the level of literacy, this situation could happen for that period. Moreover, the conclusions are enriched by the discovery of new facets of history.

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