

# The Situation of Cultural and Educational Institutions in the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic

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**Annotation:** This article describes the policy of the Government of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BPSR) in the field of culture and education, formed as a result of the overthrow of the emirate in Bukhara in 1920-1924, based on primary sources - periodicals, archives and scientific literature.

**Keywords:** BPSR, library, “Bukhara akhbori”(Bukhara News), education control, “Ozod Bukhara” (Free Bukhara), clubs, cultural and historical monument, “General rules about schools”, “Bukhara dorulfununi” (Higher educational school), society of “Historical Conference”, “Tarbiai atfol” (child education).

## Introduction.

Despite the short period in the history of Uzbek statehood, the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (1920-1924) left an important mark. With the formation of the national government in the BPSR under the leadership of Fayzulla Khodzhayev, practical steps were taken towards national development. It has carried out fundamental reforms in all spheres of society, especially government measures to improve education, culture and the arts.

In the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, which raised the idea of building a new democratic and modern state, practical steps should be taken to form modern Uzbek national art, turn it into an object of example and moral education, and ensure spiritual improvement. of course, its objective coverage is of great importance in the study of history today.

## Literature riview

Analyzing the sources and literature on the state of cultural institutions in the educational system of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, they can be divided into two groups depending on their nature and period: The first group includes the works and articles of officials and intellectuals in the newspapers “Bukhara Akhbori” and “Ozod Bukhara”\*, which are state authorities of the BPSR. These materials play an important role in the objective study of reality. The second group of literature includes works, articles and press materials created during the years of independence. In turn, the new history of Uzbekistan. Book 2, essays on the history of the statehood of Uzbekistan, including in-depth knowledge of this period, research and works of leading scientists of our country K.Rajabov, Sh.Khaitov, K.Rakhmonov contain valuable information on this topic [1].

## Research Methodology.

After the overthrow of the emirate in Bukhara in September 1920, the newly formed Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BPSR) began to carry out fundamental reforms in the socio-political and economic spheres, as well as in the cultural and educational sphere. Back in the late 1920s, the BPSR government took measures to create a state library with literature in different languages under the auspices of the Education Inspectorate. In the summer of 1921, the largest library in Bukhara named after Abu Ali ibn Sino was opened around the Kalon minaret. It is a central library, and by 1924 it had 43,000 volumes in Uzbek, Persian, Tajik, Turkish and Arabic, 20,000 volumes in Russian and 1,800 volumes in Hebrew. In 1923-1924, libraries were in Eski Chorju, Karki, Termez, Karshi, Guzar, Kitab, Shakhrisabz and Karmana.

On November 8, 1922, a museum was opened in Sitorai Mokhi Khosa (Summer Palace of the Emirs of Bukhara) near Bukhara. The opening of the first museum in Bukhara was attended by heads of government, addressed by Acting Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the BPSR Otaulla Khodjaev. A large article about the opening of the Bukhara Museum and related ceremonies and ceremonies, as well as the exhibits collected in the museum will be published in the newspaper "Bukhara Akhbori" [2].

In 1923-1924, 5 clubs and 10 red teahouses (teahouses - traditional café) were opened in the BPSR to attract the population to cultural life. Red teahouses and clubs have also been established in various provinces and districts[3].

In order to study and preserve the historical and cultural monuments of Bukhara in the late 1920s, a special department for the protection of historical monuments was established under the Ministry of Education of the BPSR. Abdurahim Yusufzoda was particularly active in this industry work. On his initiative, on August 1, 1924, a contract was signed in Moscow for the repair of existing historical and cultural monuments in Bukhara. The Bukhara government also paid attention to the creation and improvement of cultural and educational institutions in the country. By 1924, there were 14 libraries, drama theaters, museums and many clubs in the BPSR. New newspapers and magazines and other publications in Uzbek and Russian were also published[4].

In 1922-1924, the Ministry of Education of the BPSR regularly issued a number of orders covering various aspects of education. The newspaper "Bukhara Akhbori" covers in detail the events related to the organization and holding of educational congresses, funds allocated for financial support of education, two weeks of training, seminars of teachers of the All-Bukhara region, issues discussed at them, changes in school reform [5].

In the first months of the existence of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, measures were taken to create a modern education system. The leaders of the Bukhara Republic considered this issue as follows: "Education is necessary, because no country, no nation, no revolution can live without education. We need a school to study, we need education, we need a book — that's the truth"[6].

The government of the BPSR included the Jadids, who believed that the time had come to realize their dream of liberating the people from the swamp of ignorance and backwardness through their literacy. In this regard, the "General Rules for Schools" ("Rules"), developed in the first year of the BPSR's rule and published in the newspaper "Bukhara Akhbori" signed by the Minister of Education of the BPSR Kori Yuldash Pulatov and the head of the school branch. These "rules" were developed in the third decade of November 1820, three months after the termination of the emirate in Bukhara. This document consists of sections such as "General Rules", "On educational work", "Duties of the School Board", "Duties of the School Board", "Categories for school employees".

The “Rules” put on the agenda the issue of radical reform of the old education system that existed in the emirate, and mass literacy of the population. The school work plan provides for the opening of primary schools for children aged 8-16, literacy courses and the creation of special schools for teachers and coaches. After the publication of the “Rules” in the press, they became the subject of public discussion.

Paragraph 11 of section 1 of the “Rules” reads as follows: “In addition to education, children should be provided with soup, tea and clothes as far as possible in each school”[7]. Special attention is paid to the organization of regular medical examinations in schools to monitor the health of children.

It is also noted that the duration of education in primary schools is 7-8 years. Later, the discussion on this issue will intensify. In a number of issues of the Bukhara Akhbori newspaper, it was proposed to reduce this period to 4-5 years. Inspector of Education Kori Yuldash Pulatov: “Bekboy (one of the correspondents of Bukhara Akhbori – Z.J.) he wants to spend 4 years in Bukhara elementary school. The Education Inspectorate took this issue seriously and adopted the term of primary education in 5 years instead of 6 and 7 years” [9]. The “Rules” include the reform of old schools, the use of madrasah teachers in new schools, the opening of schools for girls, the opening of kindergartens and nurseries, the provision of compulsory education and free meals for students at the expense of the state.

In education, the rules for the use of techniques “insulting, beating, punishing children, admonition, reprimand, giving an example (example)” are clarified. Education should be “moral, scientific, political (ideological)” and the number of students in each class should be 30-35 people.

We see that the above notes are in tune with the spirit of the times. In particular, the forms of education, teaching methods and even the number of students in the classroom meet the requirements of the modern education system. As we get acquainted with the “Rules”, we will see that in the future system of education, special attention is paid to issues of morality, spiritual improvement. In this document had written: “Etiquette is very important in schools and schoolchildren absolutely cannot swear, be rude, smoke, gamble, play games, play quail. Teachers are also not allowed to smoke in schools”[9].

These strict rules were also applied in the first Jadid school of Bukhara Jadids, opened in October 1908 in the Sallohkhoja quarter, “Tarbiyai atfol” (“Child education”). Young Jadids who attended school vowed to have such qualities as moral purity, non-use of wine, observance of their word, dedication to education, as well as to put the interests of society above their personal interests. Sections of the “Rules”, such as “The task of the school board, the task of education”, “The task of the school Board” describe the responsibilities of the heads of the education system. The management is entrusted with a wide range of tasks, such as strengthening discipline in schools, scheduling and organizing the educational process, strengthening the material and spiritual base of the school, and selecting good teachers. “School principals charge 25 percent more for school administration and teach 12 hours a week”, the report says. In the section “Categories of school employees” of the “Rules” it is indicated that teachers are paid according to their qualifications, education and work experience. “School staff receives salaries from 3 to 5 categories, i.e. from 8000 to 6000 soums” [10].

Reading the paragraphs of the “General Regulations on Schools”, we see that equal rights of all nationalities in education, respect for national traditions, the schedule of classes depending on the age of children, the provision of holidays to students and staff were addressed. The scope of tasks in the general rules on schools is wide, and it is natural that in that historical period it caused a number of

problems. When we turn over the pages of the “Bukhara Akhbori” newspaper after the publication of the “Rules”, our opinion on this issue is confirmed.

According to the section “Education issues”, there is a shortage of teachers and coaches in schools, low material and technical base, inability to send children to school due to moral aging, military actions in the Bukhara region (Independence Movement) do not continue the learning process everywhere.

We read messages like: “There are not enough teachers in the schools that are now opening in Bukhara, there are not enough school supplies – pencils, paper, and so on. Teachers from Turkestan, Russia and the Caucasus (Azerbaijan) are returning due to poor financial situation”[11].

A small number of talented teachers in the country forced to hire people who were not spiritually mature as teachers. The exemption of teachers and high school students from military service and the provision of benefits to them did not improve the situation. Nevertheless, in order to implement the “Rules”, the BPSR government put forward the slogans “All power for knowledge”, “All for knowledge”. In order to improve the quality of work in the field of education, “Assessment one is also better!” sought to work in style. In the education system in 1921-1922, after the budget deficit was felt, some practical work was carried out. In one of the issues of “Bukhara Akhbori”. Because: “This is a law that cannot be repealed, this is a law that cannot be repealed!”[12].

Now let's talk about the activities of schools. On the territory of the BPSR, the academic year began on October 1 and lasted until the beginning of June of the following year. According to the newspapers, “in the summer of 1921 there were 17 primary schools, 2 women's schools, 3 orphanages, 1 vocational school, 1 workshop, 1 music school, 1 political school in Bukhara”[13].

The number of primary and secondary schools in the BPSR in the 1921-1922 academic year was as follows: “There were 6 primary schools in Chorzhoy and 9 schools in the whole district; 12 in Karshi district; 7 in Karshi; 3 schools in Karki province; 10 schools in Vobkent; 8 schools in Gijduvan; 15 schools in Karmana province; 3-month training courses in New Chorzhoy; There are orphanages in Chardzhou, Karmana and Khatyrchi”[14].

Evening literacy courses were opened at schools, and so the fight against illiteracy began. The struggle for the elimination of illiteracy unfolded in the BPSR, especially in the 1922-1923 academic year. Dozens of issues of the newspapers “Bukhara Akhbori” and “Ozod Bukhara” reported this in the section “Fight against illiteracy”. At that time, literacy courses were opened in every district of the Bukhara Republic. The tasks of teaching adults to read and write in 3 months have been updated. The native language was taught 6 hours a week, arithmetic 6 hours, geography, history, natural history, Russian, political literacy 1 hour [15].

According to the historian K. Rakhmonova, in the 1923-1924 academic year, 70 thousand students were trained throughout the country, 20 literacy courses were reopened. The number of literacy courses in the country last year reached 51, but only 34 of them enrolled 1,626 people, and the rest were unknown. In addition, literacy courses have achieved only 26 percent of their goals[16].

In 1924, the fight against illiteracy in the BPSR was still at a crossroads. A. Boimatov, in his weighty article “On the fight against illiteracy” published in the newspaper “Ozod Bukhara” writes: “These courses should have 2 teachers, 1 director and 50 students. One literacy school in Vabkent, Gijduvan, Karakul districts, Kagan, Chorzhoy, Karmana, Karshi, Sherabad, Guzar, Karkinsky districts. There are 840 soums are spent monthly in Bukhara and 120 soums in the regions. Each school receives 10 soums 40 tyyns and 13 soums 20 tyyns. The total estimate is 71,639 soums (excluding Eastern Bukhara). There are 560,000 people in Western Bukhara; 560,000 women are also illiterate. Make

the teacher 3 and make the number of students 75. These schools should attract primary school students and pay more than 25% (60 soums) per month, decisions should be made to pay their teachers 80 tiyn per hour”[17].

## **Analysis and results.**

The famous statesman and public figure of the Bukhara people Abdurauf Abdurahim Oglu Fitrat (1886-1938), one of the leaders of the young Bukhara progressives, who made a great contribution to the development of education in the Soviet Republic, was in Tashkent during the events of September 1920. He was recalled from Tashkent to Bukhara on March 9, 1921 at the urgent request of the Chairman of the Government of the BPSR Fayzulla Khodzhayev. According to some sources, Fitrat was People's Minister of Education of the BPSR in 1921, People's Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1922, then Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Bukhara National Economic Council, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the BPSR [18], Deputy Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, member of the Presidium of the Council of Labor and Defense and other responsible positions until July 1923 [19].

At that time, Fitrat also supervised the development of textbooks for schools and technical schools between the BPSR and the Turkestan ASSR. In addition to leading various economic reforms in Bukhara for the development of the national economy, he defined the geographical regions of the country, directing the tasks of the Amudarya flotillas to republican goals, accounting and use of mortgaged lands, restoration and repair of historical monuments and hydraulic structures of Bukhara - immersed in the development of science and education [20].

As an education inspector, Fitrat prepared a justification for the need to open an Eastern Dorilfun in Bukhara, and on September 14, 1922, the All-Bukhara Central Executive Committee decided to establish the Bukhara Dorilfun.

When Fitrat arrived in Bukhara, one of the most important tasks was to create the Bukhara Scientific Society (“Society of Historical Conferences”). Together with local historians and scientists, he began to collect manuscripts in a variety of disciplines. Currently, these manuscripts are kept in the manuscript fund of the Institute of Oriental Studies named after Beruni of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan in Tashkent.

## **Conclusion/Recommendations**

In short, the government of the BPSR in its four-year history has taken all measures to raise our nation to the level of modern development. The development of education and science was considered as the principle of occupying a worthy place in the world. He sent many talented young people to study abroad. The merits of Fayzulla Khodzhayev, Abdurauf Fitrat, Kori Yuldash Pulatov and Abdurakhim Yusufzod, who were leaders of the BPSR in carrying out cultural and educational policy and reforms, are invaluable.

Unfortunately, the inhumane policy of the Soviet regime, the totalitarian regime, turned the promising hopes of the supporters of our people into a mirage and led them to the executioner's axe.

## **Note:**

The press organ of the Government of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic. This newspaper was published from September 9, 1920 to October 16, 1923 under the name “Bukhara News”, from October 1923 to 1924 and until the end of the Republic under the name “Free Bukhara”.

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