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# National Commissions And Their Role In The Historical-Scientific Process Functioning In The Twentieth Of 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

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Researches that were done about the enlightenment of Turkistan Public in the history of Turkistan and the development of regional studies in the  $20^{th}$  years of  $20^{th}$  century have got an important role.

There were 5 scientific commission and 6 scientific society in Scientific Conference under the Turkistan Public Enlightenment in 1922<sup>1</sup>, whereas State Scientific Conference (SSC) involved in 12 scientific society and establishments in 1923. In 1925, there were 16 scientific society and 5 scientific establishments only in Tashkent city.

National (Uzbek, Kirgiz, Turkmen, Tajik, Kara Kirgiz) and specific (Pedagogic, Theatre, Music-ethnographic and learning the lifestyle of Local people) scientific commissions activated in the Scientific department under the Turkistan Public Enlightenment from the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> years.

"Regulations about national commissions" consisting of 17 chapters was also prepared as long as national commissions were launched. According to it, making arrangements belonging to enlightenment among national majority, preparing works of enlightenment tools for these nationalities, establishing communications among them and leading suitable meetings, using in pedagogy from ethnographic materials (especially, public literature) relating to these people and collecting them in order to prepare for publishing, making linguistic lists of nationalities that lived out of Turkistan, in accordance with the task of State Scientific Commission, giving reviews to any native editions which served for

<sup>1</sup>UzR National State Archive (After that NSA). R-34. 1-list. 1180 a. -foldingvolume. 103-page.



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Commissions' reviews and not possessing independent formal importance, working with other scientific commissions collaboratively and other functions were charged to national commissions<sup>1</sup>.

There were 3 main directions of Turkistan State Scientific Commissions in this period: 1. Creating scientific and pedagogic literature, works of linguistic, orthographic, terminology and ethnographic characters;2. Enlightenment commissions establish links with scientific institutions; 3. Coordination and integration of scientific societies in the republic, interaction with central and federal republics.

The tasks related to the creation of scientific and pedagogical literature, linguistic, orthographic, terminology, ethnographic, were mainly entrusted to national and special commissions. For example, the languages of Uzbek, Kirgiz, Turkmen and Tajik national scientific commissions' activities were divided into two directions (curriculum in mother tongue, preparing edition to mass scientific and fictional literature as well as translating them, furthermore, collecting folklore materials). Especially, many deals were done in the collection of materials belonging to folklore and ethnography of local public by commissions of learning the lifestyle of National People establishing under the Turkistan Public Commission Soviet and Music ethnography as well as Kirgiz and Uzbek national scientific commission.

The scientific commission of learning lifestyle of local people under the name of Turkistan PCS arised in 1921 <sup>2</sup>. The initial function of this commission was to compile ethnographic map of Turkistan <sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1184-folding volume. 103-pages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1187-folding volume. 100, 106-pages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1187-folding volume. 3-page.



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While collecting ethnographic materials, there were many great works of Kirgiz national commission's services with the head of A.A. Divaev.

The Uzbek National Commission, established in the beginning of 1921, has also considerable in history, folk work ethnography, textbooks. According to the writing of M. Yunusov, the jury of commission "from the early beginning of the work, they sent a scientific commission consisting of 3 people (A. Fitrat, Pulat Soliyev, Uktam) in order to check old historical materials to Bukhara. After having gone there, they planned to find our national music notes and some dictionaries from searching libraries". Indeed, in the fact that, scientific audit commission was sent to check Bukhara in 1921 (later on changes in Bukhara). Some manuscripts, valuable works, autograph and photos were found by these researchers in Bukhara. It meant that this trip was very important<sup>2</sup>. Followings are historical works which were found by commission:

- Autograph of Alisher Navoi written with his own hand (sarkhat)
- One complex divan of Baburkhan (there were some defects than printed by Samaylovich in the last meeting)
- Valuable works of Bukhara was "FatkhnomaSultaniy" manuscript
- Manuscript from dictionaries "Abushka" (Navoi compiled this dictionary)
- A valuable Turkish Arabic dictionary named Muqaddimatul-adab (it was the work of outstanding scholar Zamakhshariy (467-536)) and other rare works that were found due to this discovery"<sup>3</sup>.

In March 1922, the Scientific Board of the Turkestan Public Education Commission decided to send GulamZafari, an employee of the Uzbek Scientific Commission, to the Fergana region, considering "the increasingly disappearance of

<sup>3</sup>The same works.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Elbek. The content of report about Uzbek knowledge (in Old Uzbek alphabet) // Red flag. 1922, 14<sup>th</sup> March.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Recognazing the country before changing (in Old Uzbek alphabet)// Red Uzbekistan. 1924, 29<sup>th</sup>December.



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ethnographic materials on art and theater."He was tasked with clarifying the matter and collecting these materials and sending them to the Uzbek Scientific Commission in Tashkent<sup>1</sup>.

Gazi Alim was sent by Uzbek commission in 1922 in order to audit the districts of Samarkand. During his trip, he found that Jizzakh and Kattakorgan was the district of Samarkand and "checked real city-dweller of Uzbeks as well as demonstrated some resources belonging to their language, dialect and customs relating to their appearance". There were "83 various photos pointing different appearance of each Uzbek family" in these materials.

There were many great works in history, ethnographic, folklore relating to collecting materials and creating manuals by Uzbek national commission in 1921-1923 years.

In the article "Scientific researches" of "Sirojiy" published in 1923 mentioned about this: "The initial function of Knowledge commission, which was organized near to the commission of the country enlightenment, was to check and recognize the history and geographical condition of Eastern countries with new methods though serious initiativehad not been displayed this work till now. There were urgent tasks of our schools to create manuals for lessons and they should have been busy with these works so, naturally these deals were not done because of poverty and defects of people. This year it is clearly seen that knowledge commission set about this work diligently". As author written that, Uzbek knowledge commission "decreed important laws about sending researchers

<sup>2</sup>Sirojiy. Scientificres earchworks // Turkistan. 1923, 5 may.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1187-foldingvolume. 3-page.



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to defences of Turkistan Republic, Iran, Afghanistan countries and Turkistan Chin country in some commission meetings<sup>1</sup>.

In the summer expedition of Commissioner Gazi Alim Yunusov, a number of materials were also collected and classified.

Another active member of the commission, Ghulam Zafariy, visited several villages in Ferghana and collected numerous materials on folk art. During the collection of these materials, Ghulam Zafari will be informed by local people of the presence of historical materials in Kokand, and will inform the commission of: "Among the books of the governor confiscated about the past, the five-volume collection of the great Navoi's five-volume devotional "Lutfi" and other poets, in our hands (in our "handwritten" - SM), is a collection of Turkestan cities in Chigatay. There is a book on the cover, ... another 4 books, with no history of Turkistan, and many other Turkish books. As he made his way to the reading room via the Khojand Ispolkom, one conscientious man gave 20 books. He has already begun to make these books available by whatever means. According to the informer, the books mentioned above were sent to Moscow"<sup>2</sup>.

The five-year (1924-1929) plan, set up by the Uzbek Science Commission in early April 1923, included the preparation of geographical textbooks for Turkestan and other continents, a map of 5 continents and some republics of Russia, the preparation of cultural history textbooks for high schools, and work with dictionaries, translation services, and work plans for scientific work, opening branches of the Uzbek education board in Samarkand and Ferghana regions and providing them with support, this will spread among the people the way to go, as

1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The same work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1182-foldingvolume. 16-page.



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well, such as the ancient works. The following are the main tasks for collecting and storing historical works:

- 1. Collecting old manuscripts and suppressing their importance;
- 2. Opening a perfect library for these old works under the Uzbek Knowledge Board:
- 3.Add to this library various labels and posters from the time of the old Khans, as well as writings and writings of old poets and writers who lived to this day. <sup>1</sup>.

A number of historical materials were also obtained by another scientific commission sent to Ferghana in 1924.For example, an ancient copy of "Kutadgubilik", written in Arabic, has been found by the well-known Sultan Hussein Baykara's devil, Nadirabegim's devotee and many other valuable things". <sup>2</sup>

An article by Said Ahmad Nazir ugli, published in the December 5, 1924 edition of the "Red Uzbekistan" newspaper, entitled "The Scientific Research and Development in Uzbekistan": "Although the Uzbek Congress of Cultural Education has been tasked with enormous tasks such as promoting the Uzbek cultural and educational work, preserving the Uzbek art and ordering artistic activities, the Uzbek Education Board has failed to accomplish most of its tasks. He also brought up the issue of school books. It was natural that the representative of the Uzbek delegation was not in a position to do the tasks assigned by the congresses. The Uzbek scientific delegation at the Turkestan Scientific Council was in the European spirit with its structure, but the enormous Uzbek, Kazakh, Turkmen, Tajik, and Kyrgyz knowledge commissions could not unite in their daily and common affairs...."<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 2095-foldingvolume. 99-100-pages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Recognize the country before the change // Red Uzbekistan. 1924, December 29th.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>SaidAkhmadNazirugli. Research and development in Uzbekistan(In Old uzbek alphabet) // RedUzbekistan. 1924 years, 5th December.



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The main reason for the failure of scientific committees to carry out their duties was inadequate funding and necessary scientific resources.

In 1922, with the reduction of staff in the Commissariat, applications were received from the various institutions and organizations asking them to increase. However, on October 8, 1922, the chairman of the Turkestan National Security Committee sent a letter to the commissioners, saying that this was impossible, and that he would not appeal again. \(^1\).

In May 1923, the Turkestan People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs (NKVD) adopted a resolution "On approval of scientific, literary and scientific societies that did not aim for profit".It states that the statutes of the society brought to the approval must require the formation of scientific, literary and scientific societies in accordance with the "normal" charter.<sup>2</sup>.

Also during this period, special attention was paid to the activities of national intellectuals and their activities in the fight against "national bourgeoisie" and "invaders". At a meeting of the Academic Council of the Ministry of Public Education in October 1923, the issue of the involvement of local intellectuals was raised, where the intellectuals of the country were divided into several principles Soviet groups:Sharing of power; enemy mood; traders and whistleblowers. There are different societies, their activities are not defined, but most of them are engaged in cultural goals. Artificial discipline is impossible for these societies and it is impossible to allow it. Existing societies should be widely used, but their activities should be limited to cultural and educational tasks (such as opening a new school, ending illiteracy, etc.). For these societies, a specific statute

<sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. P-34-fund. 1-list. 1184-foldingvolume. 142 об-раде.

<sup>2</sup>UzRNSA. R 39-fund. 2-list 187-foldingvolume. 59-62-pages.



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must be developed. The work of these societies was said to be careful <sup>1</sup>, withregardtothecompositionofthesociety, taking into account the different intellectuals, and the Commission on Public Education was tasked with developing the charters of the societies and submitting them to the Board of the Central Committee of Agit prop. <sup>2</sup>.

On March 27, 1924, at the meeting of the Academy, the question of "the necessity of registration of scientific societies, the approval of their charterhad to be registered in the office of Turkistan Internal Affairs public commission" was adopted.

The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition, scheduled for 1923, also had a significant impact on the study of history, ethnography, and lifestyle. The exhibition was held in two directions: illustration of the lifestyle and folklore of the 2. Organization of music Turkestan population. and ethnographic expedition. Representatives of the Kyrgyz Scientific Commission Lapin and Nayasetov, G. Zafari from the Uzbek Scientific Commission, and Boriyev from the Turkmen Scientific Commission participated in the exhibition. Also, for the exhibition, Turkistan history, ethnography, economics, etc. 258 volumes of literature were published<sup>3</sup>.

As for the expeditions, the State Scientific Council had already designed a number of scientific expeditions in Turkestan in 1922, its inhabitants, lifestyle, collecting literary materials and more. Lack of funds and lack of necessary staff also made it difficult.

Until 1923, the expeditions were carried out by each scientific society at its own expense. This is said to have led to a loss of time and money, and in some

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. R – 34. 1-list. 2108-foldingvolume. 111-page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>UzRNSA. R – 34. 1-list. 2108-foldingvolume. 111-page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>UzR NSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 1594-foldingvolume. 121-page.



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cases parallels and in the next year they set to organize expeditions diligently. That is, the following non-resource expeditions were considered at SUS meetings:

- 1. Ethnography: Expedition to study Uzbeks. The mission of this expedition is to study ethnography, identify different seeds (to make ethnographic maps), study folk art, gather information about Uzbeks who work in social, scientific and community life, their influence and attitude to the masses, and photographs of historical monuments. collecting zaps and learning about customs and so on. (Ferghana, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khorezm and northern Afghanistan if possible)
- 2. Expedition to study Kyrgyz ethnography expeditions to ethnography of Uzbeks (Ferghana, Ettsuisk, Chimkent, Tashkent districts, Bukhara region, Karakalpak district of Chimkent volley, Chuy district). However, SUS's coordination work has been mentioned in several plenums in 1923. Attempts to unite scientific expeditions based on specific plans and objectives have also failed, as 1110 expeditions have received 310,000 rs. neither was approved by the IFC. The IFC has announced that it has no funds and offered to include it in the plan for next year.
  - 1. SUS's 1924 plan outlines the following expeditions:
  - 2. Studying Uzbeks ethnic boundaries, identifying different seeds for ethnographic mapping, literary, biographical and other records, terminology, etc. (Fergana and Samarkand Regions, Kyrgyzstan and Bukhara Republic)
  - 3. Studying the Ethnography of the Kyrgyz Republic with the above tasks (Fergana, Ettisuv regions, Syrdarya region, Bukhara Republic)
  - 4. Study of Turkmen Ethnography, Khorezm Republic.

For the period of 19241925, the scientific committees of the Uzbek scientific commission Ferghana and Syrdarya, the Karakyr Kyrgyz scientific



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commission in addition to Fergana, the Pamir, Ettisuv, Tajik scientific commission Ferghana and Samarkand, the Music and ethnographic commission of Bukhara, Samarkand and Ferghana regions were included<sup>1</sup>.

For example, the Chairman of the Tajik National Commission, Nisar Muhammad, reported on August 5, 1924, the results of his work in Ferghana and Samarkand at the Academy. Given the complexity of the issue, a special commission has been set up to review the materials collected here.

Researchers E.M. Peshchereva and V. The Uspensky was in Rishtan, Ferghana, where he was sent on a business trip to gather folk songs and ethnographic materials.<sup>2</sup>.

The 5-year plan of Turkestan State Scientific Council for 192429 also aims to organize expeditions "by the power of scientific committees".<sup>3</sup>.

In November, 1924, after the national border demarcation in Central Asia, the Academy was established. Scientific justification of the activities of the Commissioner of Education, consolidation of scientific activity of scientific institutions and societies on the territory of the republic was entrusted to the newly established Academy.

In general, the activities of the national scientific commissions established in the 20 th years of the 20th century as part of the Turkestan People's Commissariat of Public Education have undergone very complex social and economic and political processes in the country. The research work has not yet been properly regulated, with insufficient funding and research staff, and has made a significant contribution to the implementation of scientific and cultural tasks assigned by the government. Especially with the efforts of local scientists a number

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>UzRNSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 2630-foldingvolume. 51-page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>UzRNSA. R – 394. 1-list. 125-foldingvolume. 62-page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>UzR NSA. R-34-fund. 1-list. 2630-foldingvolume. 51-page.



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of valuable scientific works on Turkestan, history, archeology and ethnography were created. This provided the basis for future research.

## Annotation.

In this article, national and special commissions operating under the Turkestan Public Education Commission in the 20s of the 20th century, including the Uzbek National Commission, based on the analysis and involvement of new archival documents and local press materials, were presented. Iifestyle issues and research status.

**Keywords:** Turkistan, Publicenlightenment commissions, Science Commission, study of local lore, national commission, ethnographic map, history, historical-scientific condition, jury, society, expedition, box, research, Academycenter, hafriyot, Uzbek committee.

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