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History of Trade Relations in Uzbekistan (Mid-20s of the Twentieth Century)

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Abstract: This article briefly describes the history of trade relations and the economic situation of Uzbekistan, as well as the unique way of organizing markets. On the eve of the zoning carried out in Uzbekistan and after 1926, markets operated in republican cities, regional centers and large villages. Trading activities carried out in the regions were analyzed based on various sources.

Keywords: district, trade, district, market, retail outlets, administrative-territorial center, retail outlets, needs of the population.

After the establishment of Soviet power in Turkestan, despite the decisive measures taken by the Bolsheviks, the markets, which occupied the main place in trade relations, were preserved. During this period, the local population carried out trade relations through markets. Trade relations were different in all regions of the Uzbek SSR. Markets primarily operated in regional centers created by decisions of the Zoning Commission. Although markets in the regions were organized differently, they were considered the main economic center that satisfied the consumer needs of the population.

In all regions of Uzbekistan, markets and trade relations took different forms. We can observe that, across regions, this difference was as follows.

For example, in the Samarkand region, trading activities were carried out in a unique way; there were 50 markets and 3,500 trading stalls in the region. Of these, 109 retail outlets were state-owned, 103 were commercially owned and 3 288 were privately owned. In the first half of 1925, the turnover of these trading houses amounted to 33 856 000 rubles, of which state trading houses owned 18,538,000 rubles, commercial trading houses – 3 711 000 rubles, and private trading houses – 11 608 000 rubles [1.].

If you look at the trade activities carried out in the Khorezm district, trade was organized in a unique way. In total, there were 23 markets in the district, the location of which varied depending on the economic and political situation and conditions of the districts. For example, there were 5 markets in the Mangit district, 2 in the Gurlan, Yangi-Arik, and Bogota districts, 3 in the Shavot, Yangiurganch, and Khazarasp districts, and one each in the Gazavot, Khiva, and Khankai districts[1.]. The main trading activities in the markets are carried out on the specified days of the week. Local market traders are distinguished by the fact that they sell their products in a mobile way.

Of the total number of retail outlets in the district, 24 are government-owned, 30 are commercial and 1 263 are private. Most private market stalls operated on fixed market days. In the first half of 1925, the turnover of these trading houses amounted to 4 684 000 rubles, of which 1 794 000 rubles. belonged to state trading houses, 435 000 rubles. commercial trading houses and rub 2 453 000. private trading houses [1.].

The Fergana Valley, considered one of the most important regions of the Uzbek SSR, also had trade connections in its own way. To conduct trade and meet the needs of consumers in the Kokan region, central city markets and rural markets functioned. For example, rural markets operated in Rishton, Besharik, Lailakhan, Kuva, Yaipan, Chodak and other similar areas, while the main large urban markets were located in large cities of the valley such as Kokan, Fergana, Margilon. There were 5 499 retail outlets in the district, of which 137 were public, 237 were commercial and 5 125 were private. In the first half of 1925, the turnover of these shopping complexes amounted to 57 312 000 rubles [1.]. According to historical data, there were 48 markets in the Andijan region, the most important of which were located in Namangan and Andijan. In this regard, trading activities in the area are mainly divided into two parts. The first was Namangan, the central and northwestern parts of the district, and Andijan was considered the center of consumer needs of the population of the rest of the district. The Asaki market was considered a strong economic central market. There were 111 government, 237 commercial and 3 843 private trade branches in the region. In the Andijan region, in addition to trading stores engaged only in trading activities, there are 41 cotton purchasing points and 11 processing points for various products, which operated in the main settlements of the region [2.].

After the national-territorial demarcation in Central Asia, if you look at the trade activities carried out in the Khojent region, which is part of the Uzbek SSR, trade is organized in a unique way. The main trading center of the region is the city of Khojent. In addition, the main trading markets operated in the cities of Kanibadam, Isfara, Shaidan, and Nizhny Asht. In particular, the Nizhny Asht market served residents of the villages of Kyrkkuduk, Jarbulok, Pakhtakor, Sarvak, Kalam, Tajikokzhar and Uzbekokzhar. In addition, secondary markets also functioned in Pistakoz, Golacandoz, Kamyshkurgan and others. In the Khojand region there are also 5 cotton purchasing points and 13 processing points for various products, which operate in the main settlements of the region[1.]

If you look at the trade relations of the Kashkadarya region in the mid-20s of the 20th century, they were unique. To meet the consumer needs of the entire population, 23 markets functioned in the region, the location of which varied depending on the economic and administrative situation and conditions of the regions. For example, there were 5 markets in Chirakchi and Beshkent districts, 4 in Tangakharam and Koson districts, 2 in Shakhrisabz, and 1 in Kitab, Yakkabog and Guzor districts. These markets connect the cities and villages of the Kashkadarya region. At that time, markets were the main places of trade for the population and played an important role in the economic development of the country. Various consumer goods and raw materials were transported to markets via different routes, and trade connections had a significant impact on the economic development of areas. Trade relations were carried out not only with areas within the district, but also with neighboring areas. There were 2 032 retail outlets in the area. In the first half of 1925, the total turnover of these outlets amounted to 6 696 000 rubles, of which 2 383 000 rubles were from state stores, 377 000 rubles from retail stores and 3 936 000 rubles from private stores [1.].

Trade and markets in Bukhara region, one of the important regions of Uzbekistan, were carried out in a unique way. There are 34 markets in the district, and the number of markets was distributed almost equally among each district. For example, in the Shafirkon, Romitan-Khairabad districts there were 4 markets, in the Bakhavudinsky district 6 and in other districts 5. The most important central market of the region is located in the city of Bukhara. It was considered the central market of the region, connecting not only the region, but also neighboring regions and even some regions of Kazakhstan in market and trade relations. In addition, the main markets are considered to be the Gijduvan and Vobkent markets[3.]. District trade in each district is organized differently. In particular, we see that markets function differently in each region, and in the case of some regions, they functioned differently.

There are also general sales offices in the area, which are divided into government, commercial and private sales offices. Most private market stalls were open on market days. According to the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in the first half of 1925, the turnover of these trading stores in the Bukhara district amounted to 20 348 000 rubles, of which 9 719 000 rubles were from state stores, 1 449 000 rubles from commercial ones. stores and 9 180 000 rubles contributed by private retail outlets [4.].

During the period of zoning, trade relations were carried out in the Tashkent region in their own way. There were 32 markets in the region, each of which served the needs of the region's population. For example, Kibray, Kokterak, Tashkent, Trosky worked in Tashkent during this period; On Yangiyol, Zangiota, Eski Tashkent, Melonchi, Chinoz; Nomdanak in Parkent, Parkent; Angrenda Oblik, Telov, Khanabad, Yangibazar; In Bekobad one can distinguish such markets as Dzhumabozor, Kiyat, Stretensky[5.].

If you look at the trade activities carried out in the Surkhandarya region during the period of regionalization, trade was organized in its own way. In total, there were 20 markets in the district, the location of which varied depending on the economic and political situation and conditions of the districts. In the markets, trading activities were mainly carried out twice a week on a set day and served the needs of the population. Among the markets, the Pattakesar market near Old Termez was considered the largest and economically powerful. At the Pattakesar market, trade relations with Afghanistan were carried out through customs control. The Sherabad, Sariosia, Yurchi and Denov markets are inter-district markets, while the Baysun, Derband and Dashnabad markets are characterized by providing services only for the needs of residents of their districts. In general, the district's 8 markets are considered economically strong and provide 80% of the needs of the district's population. In the Surkhandarya region, in addition to shopping complexes, there is one cotton purchasing point (in the city of Termez) and 10 processing points for various products, which operated in the main settlements of the region [1.].

In another important administrative region of the Uzbek SSR, the Orta-Zarafshan region, trade relations are organized in a unique way, and the main trade activities are carried out mainly in the cities of Karmana, Kattakorgan, Nurota and the villages of Paishanba and Chimboy. In total, there were 36 markets in the district, the location of which varied depending on the economic and political situation and conditions of the districts. The main trading activity in the markets took place on certain market days of the week. In the area, in addition to trade stalls, there are 26 processing and receiving points for products. Of these, 12 processed cattle fat, 4 received dried fruits and 10 purchased cotton. [1.].

Thus, during the period of zoning in Central Asia, trade and market activities and economic relations in the main administrative-territorial units of Uzbekistan and the regions annexed to them developed in a unique way. This situation did not go unnoticed by the Central Asian Zoning Commission. Because trade and markets determined the economic center of the region and the economic situation in the region. This aspect was important when creating new administrative-territorial regions in Uzbekistan.

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