

Living Standards and Problems of the Rural Population During the Soviet Period (1945-1950 Years)

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During the Second World War and during the reconstruction of the post-war national economy, spending on the development of the social sphere was significantly limited. Due to the difficulties of the war and the post-war period, the work done to improve the social sphere was pushed into the background. The funds remaining from the production costs were allocated for social programs. During this period, the situation of the rural population of Uzbekistan was extremely difficult, as well as in the whole country. During the war years, the weakening of the material and technical base of agricultural producers, a sharp reduction in the volume of agricultural production, which complicated the farming of the rural population, led to extreme poverty of Uzbek farmers. And besides, social production was a source of income for the rural population. But this production could not satisfy even the minimal needs of the rural population.

In 1945, only 363.7 million working days were recorded for all work in the collective farms of the republic (1:222). The average working day per collective farmer decreased from 311 to 293 compared to the previous year. The wages of collective farmers during this period were mainly prepaid by products. This significantly limited rural residents' connections with the market. In addition, the number of paid products per working day was extremely low. At the same time, the rural population of Uzbekistan was traditionally much larger. According to calculations on January 1, 1945, the family composition of Uzbek villages for collective farms was 4.6 people, for state farms - 3.9 people (2:2).

Despite insufficient wages, the population of the collective farm was forcibly forced to work in the fields. The procedure for applying strict administrative measures for non-fulfillment of the minimum working day continued (Nortukhtaevna T. R. Financial Problems in Uzbekistan during the Second World War and its Results //ANGLISTICUM. Journal of the Association-Institute for English Language and American Studies. – 2018. – T. 7. – №. 3. – p. 124-130.). Managers of all types of activities considered the measure of punishment as the main means of strengthening labor discipline. During this period, the wages of state farms, that is, employees of state farms, were also significantly lower. For example, in 1946, when the salary in industry was 453 soums, the salary in state farms was 165 soums (3:2). Of course, the Union and the political leadership of the republic in the first post-war years, in order to mobilize all resources to encourage agricultural labor, in order to increase the level of agriculture, tried to change the procedures for encouraging rural labor, calculating working days, and wages. However, the method of despotic management and the system of administrative command did not allow this. On April 19, 1948, the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution “On measures to improve the organization of labor in collective farms, increase labor productivity and its regulation” (4:236). This decision somewhat improved the procedure for paying the collective farm population. Moreover, the Monetary Reform was carried out in 1947 also became an important factor affecting the financial situation of the rural population.

In addition, the resolution of the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted on February 4, 1949 “About the development of cotton growing in collective farms and state farms” was important for strengthening the rural economy and increasing household incomes (5:189). In 1949, cotton growers of the republic received remuneration in the amount of 4 billion 76 million soums, including 904 million soums, for cotton delivered to the state. Agricultural collectives of Surkhandarya region received 87 million soums in 1948 for cotton cultivation, and by 1949 - 283 million soums (6:16). The arrangements taken to increase cotton prices and increase the incomes of collective and State farms contributed to a certain extent to strengthening the economic situation of farms and a relative improvement in the standard of material living of farmers. But the post-war years and the beginning of the 50s were a difficult period for the absolute majority of people, especially rural population. The administrative management system, the valiant views of idle chatter, had a detrimental effect on the development of agriculture and the social protection system as a whole. Ultimately, the issue of the human factor has been moved to the last consideration. As a result, the residual principle of allocating funds to the social sphere dominated. Deficit in the organization of housing and cultural household building in rural areas, as well as the measures taken to improve the material welfare of rural workers were less effective. There were not enough housing, schools, hospitals in the villages. The system of payment of wages to agricultural workers was not in absolute demand. At the same time, salaries were not paid to the rural working population. The collective farmers even lost their old-age pension. The wages paid were not enough for everyday needs. Therefore, the villagers lived at the expense of farmlands. In the post-war years, farmland was the main source of material supply for the rural population. However, the state did not provide any assistance to the owners of farm land. On the contrary, the owners of private subsidiary farms were repeatedly subjected to control.

For example, in September 1946, in accordance with the resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU (b) and the Government of the USSR “On measures to stop violations of the agricultural charter in collective farms”, 752 hectares of land were seized from 6137 collective farmers of the Surkhandarya region for exceeding the norms established in the charter (7:38). The process of depriving the rural population of land continued even in the 50years. No one could resist such injustice. Since the regulation on the agricultural artel was compiled far from the desire of people, it was impossible to change the situation or adapt its provisions in the interests of the rural population. Because the tyrannical system restricted any free thought. However, without a possible increase in the welfare of the working population, it was not possible to achieve labor productivity.

Therefore, in 1947-1950, retail prices for the most necessary goods and food products were repeatedly decreased. However, both the monetary reform and the price decrease did not significantly increase the purchasing capacity of the population. For example, for one working day, 65 kopecks were paid to residents of the Kirov collective farm of the Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region, and in the collective farm of the Lenin district this indicator was 36 kopecks (8:48).

Even some collective farms paid even less for one working day. For example, in 1951, 239 collective farms in Uzbekistan were paid in kind with grain in a limited form without paying for a working day. 42 members of the agricultural artel were not even given any grain (9:24). During this period, the share of wages in the income of the rural working population was only 5.8 percent. The total income of collective farmers was about 1.5 times lower than the income of industrial workers. On average, the family of one collective farmer accounted for 1090.1 soums per year. 674.2 soums of this money were spent on food, 207.9 soums - on non-food products, mainly on fabric and clothing (10:79).

Despite favorable conditions for growing melons and fruits in the republic, the consumption of these products was about 8-9 times less than the physiological norms established in the 1950s. After the September plenum of the CPSU Central Committee in 1953, significant changes took place in the financial situation of the rural population. In particular, due to the regulation of tax policy, the reduction of mandatory norms for the supply of products to the state, the increase in prices for purchase and procurement, conditions were created for the growth of agricultural forces and an increase in farm incomes. According to the resolutions of the plenum, monetary and in-kind remuneration of labor for the working day were increased.

In 1953-1955, important steps were taken in regulating the system of advance payments for collective farmers. On March 6, 1956, the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution "About the monthly issuance of advance payments to collective farmers, on wages and additional remuneration" (11:291). In accordance with this decision, the procedure for the payment of advances to rural workers was finally regulated. By the end of the 50s, there were also changes in the average wage of collective farmers.

For example, the collective farm of Norali Baymuradov in the Dzharkurgan district of Surkhandarya region in 1956 brought 4324 thousand soums of gross income, of which 830 thousand soums were awarded to collective farmers (12:232). But still there were many cases of payment of wages for labor not only with money, but also with products in collective farms.

This had a serious impact on the population's relations with the market, the purchase of products for their own needs at a free purchase price. However, despite this, the revenue of the population have increased to some extent. For example, in 1958, a member of the Lenin collective farm of the Angara district of the Surkhandarya region, Saidov, received 38,400 soums of money and 40 quintals of grain at the end of the year.

This was 10,500 soums more than in 1957. Or the family of Imamov Fazil, a member of the Stalin collective farm of the Dzharkurgan district, received an income of 50940 soums. From the above figures, you can also find out that the main indicator of labor productivity is receiving wages for work that has been necessarily done.

During this period, the events of "transformation into a state farm", which had a vivid appearance of the transfer of collective farms to the state, also became widespread. In 1958, 45 complex mechanized cotton brigades in Surkhandarya region were transferred to economic accounting (13). But in such farms, a single system of remuneration was a priority, and the procedure for paying wages depending on the work and qualifications of employees was not established. During the research period, gross violations of the remuneration of employees working in state farms were also observed.

For example, in the state farm "1-Dalvarzin" of Kashkadarya region, employees were paid less than 27 thousand soums. But despite this, the villagers worked tirelessly in the fields. a bountiful harvest was obtained, but a much smaller profit was obtained from the result of their hard work. According to the calculations of 1958, 9 soums 70 kopecks per day were paid for one person in Kashkadarya region. In Surkhandarya region, this figure was 10 soums 20 kopecks (14). These funds did not meet the needs of collective farmers.

Summing up, taking into account the fact that 7-8 people live in each family of the rural population, it becomes clear how serious the issue is. Since the funds of the Soviet government allocated for social purposes were mainly formed on a residual basis, the possibilities of meeting the most necessary needs of the population were limited. This has led to the accumulation of a number of problems in social and everyday life. it was a bunch of nonsense built on lies. No matter

how the propagandists of Soviet ideology propagandized and agitated the humanism of communist society, their soil was empty and it was a bunch of nonsense built on lies.

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