



Analysis of the Fergana Ethnic Conflict

Bekmirzaev Rakhmonali Begalievich

Lecturer, Fergana State University,
Fergana, Uzbekistan
r.b.bekmirzayev@pf.fdu.uz,
freedomsayts@mail.ru, bekraaxman@gmail.com,
ID: 0000-0003-3414-3774

ABSTRACT

This article describes the details of the ethnic conflict that took place in 1989 in the Fergana region between the local people and the Turko-Meskhetian people.

Keywords:

USSR, Fergana valley, 1989 Fergana massacre, deportation, Turks - Meskhetians, ethnic group, ethnic conflict, details to stabilize interethnic relations in the Fergana valley

Introduction

A specific feature of the Fergana interethnic conflict of 1989 was that one of its parties were, an ethnic group that, before this conflict, the Turks - Meskhetians majority of the population of the USSR probably did not even know about during the Second World War, 46 thousand Turks - Meskhetians were called up into the army, about 26 thousand of them (56.5%) died [1]. Hundreds were awarded orders and medals, and 8 people became Heroes of the Soviet Union [2].

In 1944, the chauvinistic leadership of the Georgians raised the issue of evicting Muslims from the republic [3]. By the time they were evicted from Gruzok, the Meskhetian Turks lived in 212 villages in southern Georgia [4]. Together with the Turks, Kurds, Khemshins (Muslim Armenians), Azerbaijanis (mostly the same Turks, recorded as Azerbaijanis in Soviet times) would also be evicted. The main regions for the eviction of Georgian Muslims were Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan [5]. The deportation began on 11/15/1944 and

lasted until January 1945. A total of 115.5 thousand people were evicted [6]. On the way and in the first months after the expulsion, 15,432 people died. By the beginning of 1953, there were 86,663 immigrants from Georgia in exile in Central Asia, including 66,823 Turks (77.1%) [7]

Level of Study of The Subject

In 1980, 207.5 thousand Meskhetian Turks lived in the former USSR, with the bulk being concentrated in the three Central Asian republics: 1063 thousand (31.2%) - in Uzbekistan, 49.6 thousand (23.9%) - in Kazakhstan, 21.3 thousand (10.3%) - in Kyrgyzstan [8].

One of the serious factors that influenced the growth of tension in the Fergana Valley was the sharp deterioration of the socio-economic situation in the region, in particular, the growth of unemployment. In the 1980s, on average, the labor resources of the Fergana region increased by 22.4 thousand people annually. By the end of the 80s, the bulk of the unemployed

was concentrated in Uzbekistan (27.3 thousand people), Fergana (26.5 thousand people), Akhunbabaevsky (15 thousand), Tashlak (142 thousand) districts of the region [9].

It is also necessary to take into account the general social situation in the republic. As noted in the Decision of the Fergana Regional Executive Committee No. 408 19 dated 10/26/1989 : “ Recently, social tension has increased significantly in the republic, crime has increased, social, state, and labor discipline has been weakened. A similar situation is noted in the territory of the Fergana region. In the structure of crime, the number of deliberate murders, attacks on health and personal integrity, citizens, robberies, robberies has increased ... Various extremist-minded leaders of informal associations have intensified their activities and are trying to actively influence the situation in the region, who often, hiding behind a mask " fighters" for human rights, arrogate to themselves the right to speak on behalf of the people, organize and conduct unauthorized rallies and meetings at which anti-social ideas are promoted" [10], "push certain groups of the population, especially young people, to anti-social acts... Such actions.. .destabilize the socio-political situation, undermine people's faith in the ability of state authorities to protect the interests of the population, give rise to various rumors, and cause discontent among the population” [11]. In other words, the sparks of inter-ethnic conflict fell on already prepared ground.

In many materials devoted to the Ferghana events, it was repeatedly mentioned that among the rampant crowds, most of the youths were in a state of alcoholic or drug intoxication [12], military personnel and police repeatedly confiscated vodka and marijuana from the detained extremists [13] . Immediately during the conflict and immediately after it, a record of human and material losses was started. As of June 15, 1989, 93 people died, including 64 Meskhetian Turks , 17 Uzbeks, and 12 people of other nationalities. Over 1,000 people were injured and injured. More than 700 buildings and 168 vehicles were burned. In the process of restoring order, 173 servicemen of the internal

troops, 57 police officers were injured, 1 of whom died [14]. As of 06/16/1989, it was established that 1051 buildings were burned and destroyed, incl . 750 houses, 7718 weapons were confiscated [15].

As of June 17, 1989, it was already revealed that 97 people died, 750 residential buildings, 27 administrative buildings, 274 cars were burned and destroyed [16]. 8161 units of firearms and cold steel were seized, 452 people were detained for hooligan actions, 2886 people were detained for violating the curfew [17]. By June 21, 1989, 8,970 weapons had already been seized, and 98 people had died [18].

According to Sh.3. Ziyamov , as a result of the interethnic conflict, a total of 107 people died, over 1000 people were injured of varying severity, hundreds of houses were burned [19].

An interesting document is the Decree of the Ferghana Regional Party Committee and the Regional Executive Committee “On awarding the Regional Party Committee and the Regional Executive Committee with Certificates of Honor” dated 10.08.1989 No. 282/15, from which we can draw certain conclusions about the extent of the participation of troops in resolving the interethnic conflict [20] . This Decree was awarded, as indicated in the text "for active public order, as well as carried out agitation and propaganda, political and educational work in labor collectives, educational institutions, for participation in maintaining the place of residence of the population" military teams of two military schools (Higher Political School Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR named after Lenin Komsomol and the Perm Higher Military Command School), five regiments of internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR (military unit 3186, 3641, 5425, 5429, 7574), as well as the Central Museum of Internal Troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the CCCP (apparently for good propaganda propaganda work) [21]. By the same Decree, 32 servicemen of the Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs in various ranks were awarded Certificates of Honor: 2 generals (commander of the Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs,

Colonel General Yu.V. Shatalin and his deputy Major General G.A. Malyushkin), 4 colonels (E A. Nechaev, V. M. Oproshenko , N. N. Silkin , A. M. Frolov), 11 lieutenant colonels, 4 majors, 4 captains, 3 senior lieutenants, 1 ensign, 1 cadet, 2 privates [22]. The presence of such a large number of high-ranking officers who have been decorated gives a rough idea of the scale of the conflict and the number of troops involved. A little later, employees of the KGB Department for the Fergana region S. Kazakov, R. Rasulov, Sh.S. Yulchibaev were awarded similar diplomas - "for their great work to strengthen state security in the region" [23]. After the conflict, a decision was made to confiscate various weapons from the population of institutions and organizations. During the year, by August 1, 1990, 10,123 firearms were seized, incl . - in organizations and enterprises 5778 units, among the population - 4345 units [24].

On April 14, 1990, the decision of the Regional Executive Committee No. 163/11 "On the state of work of the commissions of city and district executive committees to determine and compensate for the material damage caused to the Meskhetian Turks " was adopted. It was determined that during the conflict in the region 1233 houses belonging to the Meskhetian Turks were damaged , of which 421 houses are subject to restoration, 812 houses are to be repaired. During 1989, 862 houses were put into operation, 371 houses remained as of January 1, 1990, of which 253 houses were subject to complete restoration, 118 required repair. In the first quarter of 1990, 13 houses were being restored, 2 of them were commissioned. 5288.9 thousand rubles were spent on the payment of lump-sum benefits , 9762.1 thousand rubles were spent on compensation for property damage, 7764.9 thousand rubles were spent on payment for housing construction. [25] Thus, the extremists, among other things, caused enormous direct and indirect damage to the republic, which was going through a very difficult socio-economic period in its history.

Conclusion

Summarizing the various versions of the causes of the conflict, we would like to highlight a number of key points:

- in 1989, there was a sharp aggravation of interethnic relations throughout the former CCCP: the Karabakh conflict aggravated, conflicts took place in Abkhazia, in Moldova (Transnistria and Gagauzia), in Kazakhstan (the Novouzensky conflict), interethnic relations deteriorated sharply in the Baltic states, Crimea, etc. d. In this sense, the Ferghana conflict differed only in the scale of casualties and destruction;

- by the end of the 80s. the socio-economic situation throughout the USSR, and in Central Asia in particular, reached its crisis level. The low standard of living of the population, mass unemployment, deficit - all this did not at all contribute to the improvement of interethnic relations;

- the peak of active activity of various provocative groups (including the nationalist persuasion) also falls on the end of the 80s and beginning of the 90s.

- in our opinion, the causes of the conflict are quite objective, but they were used by destructive elements, which gave the conflict a special urgency and bloodshed.

Finally, the consequences of the Ferghana interethnic conflict were overcome only after 1991, i.e. after the declaration of independence of Uzbekistan. One of the consequences of the conflict was also a change in the pattern of settlement of the Meskhetian Turks . However, a rather large Turkish-Meskhetian diaspora remained in Uzbekistan, numbering, according to the leaders of the Ahiska Center , up to 40,000 people.

The first Turkish national cultural center in the republic was established in 1991 in the Bukhara region, and the Turkish national cultural center of Uzbekistan " Ahiskha " - in 1997. Today, its structure includes branches in the Bukhara and Samarkand regions. In order to revive the customs, traditions, culture of the Turkish people, amateur art groups are being developed at the center: " Sevinch ", " Ana - Dulu", " Ahiskha", " Arzu ", a puppet theater, a comedy theater "MIKO", ensembles of folk instruments " Nazim - media" and " Gunesh ".

The Meskhetian Turks living in the Republic of Uzbekistan are full-fledged citizens who have all the opportunities for full-fledged ethno-cultural development.

References:

1. Yunusov A. Axiskinskie (mesxetinskie) turki: dvajdi deportirovanniy narod// Vostok. 1999. № 6. S. 40
2. Geroi Sovetskogo Soyuza. M., 1987. T. 1,2
3. Turki-mesxetinsi: dolgiy put k reabilitatsii. Sb. dokumentov. Sost. N.F. Bugay. M., 1994. S. 13.
4. Panesh E.X., Yermolov L.B. Ukaz. soch. S. 16
5. Xurshut A. Turki// Literaturniy Kirgizstan. 1988. № 12. S. 102-111
6. Soglasno podschetam Komissii pri Vremennom organizatsionnom komitete (VOK) po vozvrasheniyu na rodinu mesxetinskix turok// Panesh E.X., Yermolov L.B. Ukaz. soch. S. 16, 24
7. Turki-mesxetinsi: dolgiy put k reabilitatsii. S. 24, 38-45, 67
8. Soyuz. 1990. № 32. S. 13
9. Ferganskaya pravda. 17.06.1989 g.
10. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F. 1124. Op. 15. D. 367. L. 186.
11. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F. 1124. Op. 15. D. 367. L. 187.
12. Ferganskaya pravda. 21.06.1989; Ferganskaya pravda. 22.06.1989; Pravda.20.06.1989; Pravda Vostoka. 20.06.1989 i t.d.
13. Ferganskaya pravda. 14.06.1989
14. Pravda Vostoka. 16.06.1989
15. Pravda. 16.06.1989
16. Ferganskaya pravda. 17.06.1989
17. Ferganskaya pravda. 17.06.1989
18. Ferganskaya pravda. 21.06.1989
19. Ziyamov Sh.Z. Mejnatsionalnie otnosheniya i mejetnicheskie konflikti v sentralnoy Azii// Central Asian Studies. 2003. №e 8. C. 154
20. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D. 387.
21. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D. 387. L. 25
22. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D. 387. L. 25-26
23. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D. 398. L. 55
24. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D. 452. L. 22
25. Gosudarstvenniy arxiv Ferganskoy oblasti. F-1124. Op. 15. D.442, L. 180
26. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2021). Factors affecting nation-building relationships in Fergana Valley. *Asian Journal of Multidimensional Research*, 10(11), 122-125.
27. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2021). Traces Of Archaic Religions In The Modern Way Of Life Of The Peoples Of The Ferghana Valley. *The American Journal of Social Science and Education Innovations*, 3(11), 41-46.
28. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2022). Socio-Economic Causes Of Ethnic Conflicts In The Ferghana Valley. *American Journal Of Social Sciences And Humanity Research*, 2(06), 135-138.
29. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2022). Historical and political problems of the Ferghana valley. *Asian Journal Of Multidimensional Research*, 11(6), 104-106.
30. Жўраев, Х. П., Бекмирзаев, Р. Б., & Юсупов, Ж. (2022). ЧОР РОССИЯСИНИНГ ТУРКИСТОНГА АҲОЛИНИ КЎЧИРИШ СИЁСАТИДА ЕР БИЛАН БОҒЛИҚ МУАММОЛАРНИНГ ҲАЛ ЭТИЛИШИ. *IJTIMOIIY FANLARDA INNOVASIYA ONLAYN ILMIY JURNALI*, 2(11), 54-59.
31. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2022). Interpretation of inter-ethnic relations in the Ferghana Valley from political aspects. *The Peerian Journal*, 12, 31-34.
32. Begalievich, B. R. (2022). Inter-ethnic conflicts in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic. *Eurasian Research Bulletin*, 14, 51-56.
33. Bekmirzaev, R. B. (2022). INTER-ETHNIC RELATIONS AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN FERGHANA VALLEY. *ResearchJet Journal of Analysis and Inventions*, 3(11), 34-40.

34. Бекмирзаев, Р. (2022). Yangi O'zbekistonda millatlararo totuvlik va dinlararo bag'rikenglikni mustahkamlashning huquqiy asoslarini yaratilishi. *Актуальные проблемы истории Узбекистана*, 1(1), 585-593.
35. Бекмирзаев Р.Б., & Рустамов С.А. (2023). МУСУЛЬМАНСКИЕ ГЕОГРАФЫ (ИБН БАТТУТА). Экономика и социум, (1-2 (104)), 172-175.
36. Alimova, N. O. (2021). Some Views On The History Of Daily Life Of Women In The Villages Of The Ferghana Valley (1946-1991). *The American Journal of Social Science and Education Innovations*, 3(07), 45-47.