

https://doi.org/10.61796/ejlhss.v1i9.921

# ECONOMIC-SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBANIZATION DURING THE SOVIET ADMINISTRATION (EXAMPLE OF BUKHARA CITY)

## Hayotova Nafisa Zakirovna,

associate professor of the Department of "Social-Political Sciences" of Bukhara State University, Doctor of Philosophy in History (PhD)

# Received: Jul 22, 2024; Accepted: Aug 29, 2024; Published: Sep 17, 2024;

**Abstract:** This article provides information about the development of economic and social infrastructure in the city of Bukhara during the Soviet government. Mainly during the war, the relocation of many factories and factories from the front zone to Bukhara created new opportunities for the expansion of the city's infrastructure and the development of industrial sectors. The article discusses the impact of these enterprises on the city structure, the construction of new housing and transport networks, and urbanistic changes. Also, the role and importance of Bukhara in the framework of the Soviet urban policy will be considered. The article aims to shed light on how it influenced the industrial development and urban development processes during the Soviet government.

**Keywords:** Industrial restructuring, infrastructure, acceleration, communal constructions, socialist competition, cultural and household institutions



This is an open-acces article under the CC-BY 4.0 license

## Introduction

In the early years of the Soviet government, in order to strengthen the Soviet ideology, restore the national economy, and eliminate the opposition, some concessions were made in the social and cultural-household spheres. But by the end of the 20s, as the totalitarian regime became stronger, policies based on communist theory were carried out.

First of all, it should be said that great changes were made in the urban planning of our republic during the Soviet rule. In particular, during this period, many new cities were built, the architectural appearance of cities changed in the Soviet interpretation, the construction of huge multi-storey buildings, the development of urban economy, the increase in the process of building social infrastructures - education, health care, cultural and household institutions, the development of transport communications, significant results were achieved in the creation of a number of household amenities, such as beautification of cities, gasification, hydrogen networks and sewage pipelines. In turn, these factors stimulated the development of urban culture in the republic.

#### **Methods**

Many studies have been conducted on the communist policy of the Soviet government and its impact on the republic. About the city of Bukhara under the influence of the Soviet ideology and its consequences, S. Shodmonova "Processes of transformation in the cities of Uzbekistan (1917-1941)", B. Mirzakulov "Bukhara history in the details", M. Avalov "Razvitie gorodskogo khozyaystva Bukhari", Ishanov A "Bukharskaya Narodnaya Sovetskaya Respublika", A. Togaeva "Problems of urbanization and urban culture in Uzbekistan", K. Rahmonov was studied in research works such as "History of the People's Soviet Republic of Bukhara in

the press pages"

# **Result and Discussion**

It is known that at the beginning of the 20th century, as in other regions of the republic, the Soviet government in Bukhara began to transfer all branches of industry to the state. Although efforts were made to use new techniques and technologies in existing industrial enterprises, funds were not enough for reconstruction of all enterprises. Moreover, during this period, the Russian government was going through an economic crisis.

During this period, great steps were taken in the interest of the center for the restoration and development of industry in Bukhara.

- Industrial restructuring: Based on the economic policy of the Soviet government, industrial development programs were adopted in Bukhara. In 1922, the Russian government supplied Bukhara with necessary equipment for textile, leather, soap and paper production. Also, the old cotton and oil factories were expanded and new production facilities were created. These measures were aimed at creating new jobs and forming an industrial proletariat class.
- 2. Power supply: In 1924, the first diesel-powered power station was commissioned in Bukhara, which helped provide electricity to the entire city. This development allowed further expansion of the industry, as the necessary energy supply for the production facilities improved.
- 3. Textile industry: By the late 1920s, textile and cotton processing enterprises played a major role in Bukhara's industry. The development of the cotton and other agricultural products processing industry in Bukhara region became a factor supporting the economy.

These processes radically changed the economic life of Bukhara and accelerated industrial development. In December 1925, when the 14th Congress of the CPSU (b) announced the acceleration of the path of "socialist industrialization", great attention was paid to the "acceleration" of industrial construction in Uzbekistan. But because the industrialization movement was carried out artificially, negative aspects soon appeared. The Republic of Uzbekistan has an agrarian character, and in 1927, the share of agriculture in its economy was 62.6%, and the share of industry was 37.4%, and 90% of this industrial production was aimed at the reuse of agricultural raw materials[1]. The Soviet state implemented the policy of keeping Uzbekistan as a raw material base. In the development of the industry, the development of the cotton industry and related sectors was mainly pursued. As a result, 2/3 of the republic's industry was accounted for by cotton ginning industry. Industrialization policy was carried out in Bukhara as well as in other regions of the republic. In 1925, Bukhara had 8 cotton ginning factories, 1 oil factory, and a tannery (leather-leather) factory[2]. Also, 205 out of 233 local industrial enterprises were leased, only 5 were used by the local economic administration[3].

In 1928, a cocoon factory started operating in Bukhara. This factory produced 84 tons of cocoon raw materials per year[4]. At the end of 1929, a sewing factory was opened and 360 women began to work in it. The opening of these enterprises played an important role in the development of industrial enterprises in Bukhara. In 1925-1926, several artels began to work in the city of Bukhara, in Kogon. In 1926, 2 artels were established in Bukhara, and more than 250 women worked in them. In 1929, "Ozod Zamon", "F. Khojaev", "8 March", "Kyzil Sharq" and other artels began to operate in Bukhara.

In 1930, 2457 small and large craft enterprises in Bukhara were united into 20 industrial artels. It was planned to involve 1500 families of the city in this work by organizing silk, velvet weaving and embroidery artels[5]. It is worth saying that during the middle of 1920s and 30s, such trades as silk production, embroidery, goldsmithing, and coppersmithing began to recover in the country. Goldsmithing, which is considered a special branch of traditional crafts, was revived relatively late, that is, by the end of the 20s. Therefore, in the 1930s, a goldsmith's artel was

established in Bukhara, the center of goldsmithing[6]. At the end of the 19th century, goldsmithing mainly served to satisfy the needs of narrow circles on the basis of special orders.

It was in the 1930s that oil and soap factories, a silk factory, a brick factory, a bakery with a production capacity of 8 tons of bread worth 75 thousand soums, 3200 sq. Bukhara diesel station, Bukhara and Gijduvon cotton ginning plants were built. The increase in the number of industrial enterprises, the increase in the number of workers, the creation of large enterprises instead of small enterprises, in turn, affected the socio-economic condition of the city's inhabitants. The increase in the population of the city (55 thousand people lived in the city of Bukhara at the end of the 1930s[7]) caused the construction of residential areas. These were the first steps of the urbanization process.

The industrial enterprises established in Bukhara in 1933-1937 served only the interests and needs of the Center without considering local conditions and national interests. On October 23, 1937, the decision of the USSR Council of Ministers "On measures for industrial and communal constructions in Uzbekistan" was adopted. Based on this decision, he set the task of completing and putting into operation the cotton ginning factories in Bukhara and Gijduvan by 1938[2; 36]. Efforts were made to produce products in industrial enterprises and to form a Soviet working class based on the plan set by the Center. "Socialist competitions" were organized among the enterprises. As a result, attempts to force the implementation of state plans, and in some cases to artificially increase development, increased. As a result of artificial acceleration, the quality indicators of all industrial enterprises in the USSR decreased.

It is known that during the Second World War, 104 plants and factories were moved from western regions to Uzbekistan. In Bukhara, the light and food industries, which mainly traced their work to the military, have developed. The Kharkiv bicycle plant was placed inside the Bukhara cotton ginning plant[8]. In the period from November 1941 to March 1942, the Bukhara region was transferred from Moscow to the Scientific Research Institute of Military Communications (November 1941), Artillery Academy (January 1942), Bryansk Construction Technical College to the building of the Bukhara Pedagogical Academy (March 1942), Odessa Juice Factory Bukhara transferred to beer and lemonade factory (November 1941), Voroshilovgrad drama theater Kogon (November 1941).

After the end of the Second World War, the construction of social facilities in the city continued. In 1959, the People's University of Culture was established in Bukhara. At the end of the 1960s, 7 libraries and 9 cinemas were operating in the city.

In the 1970s, the city had the State Pedagogical Institute named after S. Orjonokidze with about 7,000 students, a branch of the Tashkent Polytechnic Institute with 2,300 students, 2 special secondary schools with 8,700 students, and 7 vocational schools that trained more than 300 workers of various professions every year. there are technical educational institutions, 33 general education schools with more than 3100 students, 8 working youth schools and 73 preschools with 12,000 children[9]. The history-local history museum established in 1972 in Bukhara has also gained great importance in the cultural life of the city dwellers. There were also 28 libraries, 10 cinemas and 15 clubs[10].

In the world experience, there are methods of managing large cities by dividing the city into districts, and this process was considered as a factor influencing the faster development of the city. During the time of the Soviet government, the practice of managing cities in this way was also introduced. On May 26, 1978, by the decision of the deputies of the People's Soviet of Bukhara region "On the establishment of districts in the city of Bukhara", Textile and Fayzulla Khojaev districts were established in the city[11]. They are administratively subordinated to Bukhara city administration. In 1980, 24 in Faizulla Khojaev district[12]. There are 12 general education schools in the textile district, 23,046 students were educated in the schools of Fayzulla Khojaev district, and 1,457 people were educated in 5 evening schools. 4718 children were educated in 35 preschool educational institutions. Training rooms specializing in production have also been established in the districts. In particular, photography, tailoring, locksmithing, and cooking classes were conducted. 34,500 students were educated in the city of Bukhara.

During this period, the health care system in the city was in a poor state, and attention to medical institutions was in a deplorable state due to lack of funds. By the 1950s, the situation had improved significantly. In the city of Bukhara, 1 million rubles were spent on the repair and equipment of medical institutions in 1947, and by 1950, 7 million rubles were allocated. In 1958, almost twice as much money was spent on health care as in 1950. In 1946, there were 30 medical centers in Bukhara, and by 1965 their number had reached 50[13].



Abu Ali Ibn Sina pharmacy in Bukhara

In the 50s of the 20th century, a sanatorium for 100 people was built next to the residence of the emir of Bukhara, Sitorai Mohi Khosa, where hundreds of residents had the opportunity to rest every year[14].

According to the data of 1966, a 250-bed city hospital, a 200-bed children's hospital, a 125-bed infectious diseases hospital, six polyclinics (3 of them for children), 12 doctors' offices and 25 paramedic stations were operating in Bukhara[15].

It is known from the above that the construction of medical institutions in Bukhara city led to the development of the city's infrastructure and the change of the city's appearance, the city's growth towards the south.

During 1950-1980, all industrial enterprises and construction organizations of Bukhara were equipped with new equipment. However, the socialist system of economic management prioritized the increase of quantitative indicators at the expense of product quality. Industrial enterprises operating in both districts of the city were subordinated to production according to the plan. There are 17 industrial enterprises operating in F.Khojaev district, including an oil-oil extraction plant, a cotton ginning plant, a repair-mechanic plant, a knitting-silk weaving factory, a bread factory, a shoe factory, a sewing production association, etc. In these enterprises, 44 types of products were produced with the state quality mark, and 145 types of products were produced with the first class quality mark. 11 types of products have been produced under the State Quality Mark at the "Jewellery" factory alone[16].

There are 18 industrial enterprises in the textile district, including an expanded clay plant (keramzitovy plant), a brewery, the Bukhara yarn-spinning textile plant, a repair-mechanical plant, a flour plant, a wood processing plant (DOZ-5), the 20th Construction Materials Plant (KSM 20-trust), Industrial Goods Production Combine (KPP) and others.

In the 1980s, new industrial enterprises and social facilities were established in the city. In 1980-1990, a textile factory, in 1987, a new shoe factory was put into operation[17]. According to

the data of these years, despite the fact that every enterprise tries to fulfill its "socialist obligation", only 6 of the existing 18 enterprises in the district fulfilled the production plan.

In the 1980s, the wear and tear of technical equipment in industrial enterprises had a negative impact on the quality of manufactured products.



Shopping complex in Bukhara

As a result, an economic crisis began in many regions of the union. This led to a decrease in the production volume of the enterprises and failure to fulfill the set plan.

It should be said that during the Soviet government, housing construction was of particular importance among the material funds of the city infrastructure. On October 10, 1946, at the joint meeting of the 20th session of the Council of Deputies of the Bukhara region, a special decision was made to carry out general construction works in the city[18]. In particular, in the first years after the Second World War, attention was paid to housing construction and renovation of existing buildings, among all areas of the city economy. In 1948, 69% of the residential renovation plan was completed in Bukhara, and in 1956, 33 houses, a hotel for 75 people, a bathhouse, and a school were completed in Bukhara[19].

In 1957, the Decision "On the development of residential construction in the USSR" was adopted, and it was determined to completely eliminate the housing problem within 10-12 years. In 1958, the housing stock was 368,000 square kilometers, and by 1967 it had reached 510,000 square kilometers. Housing construction cooperatives were established in Bukhara, as well as in other cities of the republic, due to the need to fully provide the population with housing.

One of the actions carried out during the Soviet period was providing workers with free housing, which was aimed at preventing workers' "indolence", "tying" them to the enterprise, and providing production with workers. Homes were repossessed from those who voluntarily resigned or were released from work. The enterprises themselves had to build accommodation for employees. In addition, the practice of building houses with factory and factory workers was widely used[20]. So, the development of economic infrastructure in the city led to the creation of residential areas, which led to the development of urban planning.

In the late 1970s, 1 mln. 741 thousand soums were spent. In particular, road surface repair, street lighting, and improvement of public recreation centers were carried out. In 1970-1975, a dairy factory was built in Bukhara, in 1974 there was a spinning mill, a car park, a city hospital, a

pedagogical institute, a house of Soviets, a house of political education, a village. Soyuz House, residential buildings of more than 300,000 square meters, large-format cinema, two hotels with 700 beds (Zarafshon and Varakhsha), 4 schools with 5,200 beds, kindergartens with 2,030 beds, as well as Intourist with 378 beds in 1974, 380 beds in 1976 "Communal" hotels have been built and put into operation[21].

It should be said that many mistakes were made during the construction of the city. First of all, natural factors were not taken into account in the construction of the city, especially the direction of the wind was not taken into account in the construction of residential and social buildings. This situation made it difficult to exchange air in these buildings. Secondly, not enough attention has been paid to greening the city, that is, to establishing a "green zone" on the outskirts of the city. However, the created green zone protects the city located in the desert zone from various hot winds and salt dust storms. It is worth saying that if the winds take an active part in cleaning the air of some cities, they add their "share" in polluting others. The role of local winds in the air exchange of cities located in plains as well as in mountainous regions is incomparable. This situation is especially important in Bukhara region. Most of the winds in the region blow from the north[22]. Therefore, in urban development, in the construction of residential buildings, enterprises and various institutions, such a natural law must be observed.

Since the 1960s, when new two- and four-story residences began to be built on the lower side of the defense wall, the terms "New city" and "small district" (microdistrict) began to be used in relation to this area.

Thus, the construction "reforms" carried out during the Soviet era damaged the historical old part of Bukhara, and the southwestern part of the city looked completely different.

On May 8-17, 1976, one after the other, an M-7.3 earthquake with a strength of more than 9 occurred in the city of Gazli, located in the natural gas extraction area of Uzbekistan[23]. The strength of consecutive vibrations reached 7 points in Bukhara. The natural disaster damaged the infrastructure of the city, especially the cultural heritage objects located in the "old" city. Builders from other sister republics were also involved in the repair and construction of urban housing facilities.



Newly built houses in 1980. (Bukhara, Sharq 2)

After the earthquake, 4 small settlements designed for 10,000 residents were built and commissioned in the city. Also, 4 schools, 4 summer cinemas, 1 children's polyclinic and other buildings were built[24].

In the 4 small areas that were completed and put into use, there were no green zones for recreation, sidewalks for pedestrians, and internal lighting devices between houses. Also, residents

living on the lower floors of the houses built garages and various storage rooms and planted agricultural products on the farms. This had a negative impact on the appearance of the city.

#### Results.

During the Second World War, the relocated factories and enterprises had a significant impact on the industry and urban planning of Bukhara. This process led to the development of new industries in Bukhara and influenced the urban structure of the city. The transplanted enterprises gave impetus to the formation of heavy industry in Bukhara. For example, the production of technical equipment, textile and leather industries were developed. Due to the fact that the city of Bukhara became an important economic center during the Soviet era, new industrial zones, housing and transport networks were built. This contributed to the increase in the population of the city and the expansion of urban development. Also, new infrastructures - road networks and production sites - were built in the city for the relocated enterprises, which increased the strategic importance of Bukhara within the Soviet Union.

The role of educational institutions in the infrastructure of the city is important, and with the increase of the city's population, efforts to provide quality services to the population have led to the development of urban planning.

The use of outdated technical equipment and the increase of the annual plan by the center brought industrial enterprises to the brink of collapse.

### **Conclusion**

it can be said that during the administration of the Soviet government, great changes were made in Bukhara, as in all regions of the republic. During these years, the Soviet government paid great attention to the industrial sector, but under the influence of the Soviet ideology, a cotton monopoly was established. Modern buildings, parks, industrial enterprises, factories and textile factories were built in the city. Engineering, transport, communication and logistics services have been established. But industrial enterprises in the center of the city, especially the meat factory, oil extraction factory, cotton ginning factory and similar factories and factories that harm the city's ecology, caused various social problems to increase in the image and life of the city.

#### References

- [1]. Ўзбекистоннинг Янги Тарихи: Ўзбекистон Совет Мустамлакачилиги Даврида, vol. 2, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Sharq, 2000, p. 339.
- [2]. Б. Мирзакулов, Бухоро Тарихи Зарварақларида, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Durdona, 2018, р. 32.
- [3]. История Бухары С Древнейших Времен До Наших Дней, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Fan, 1976, p. 226.
- [4]. Правда Востока, 17 Ост. 1928.
- [5]. Ф. Хўжаев, Асарлар, vol. 2, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Fan, 1978, p. 664.
- [6]. Ўзбекистон Миллий Архиви, 382-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 2444-хужжат, 1-варақ.
- [7]. Правда Востока, 12 Dec. 1930.
- [8]. Узбекская ССР В Годы Великой Отечественной Войны, vol. 1, Ташкент, Uzbekistan, 1980, p. 115.
- [9]. Х. Мўминов and А. Музаффаров, Бухоро Области, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Ўзбекистон, 1976, р. 65.
- [10]. История Бухары С Древнейших Времен До Наших Дней, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Fan, 1976, p. 365.
- [11]. Бухоро Вилояти Давлат Архиви, 1296 фонд, 112-йиғма жилд, 1-рўйхат, 15-варақ.
- [12]. Бухоро Вилояти Давлат Архиви, 1-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1276-йиғма жилд, 76-варақ.
- [13].М. Авалов, "Развитие Городского Хозяйства Бухары," Ташкент, Uzbekistan, p. 367.
- [14]. Народное Хозяйство Бухарской Области. Статистический Сборник, Бухара, Uzbekistan, 1967, р. 405
- [15]. История Бухары С Древнейших Времен До Наших Дней, Ташкент, Uzbekistan: Fan, 1976, p. 347.
- [16]. Бухоро Вилояти Давлат Архиви, 1-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1276-йигма жилд, 27-варак.
- [17]. Бухоро Шарқ Дурдонаси, р. 81.
- [18]. Красная Бухара, 11 Ост. 1945.
- [19].М. Авалов, Развитие Городского Хозяйства Бухары, Ташкент, Uzbekistan, p. 358.
- [20]. Ўзбекистон Миллий Архиви, Р-2384 фонд, 1-рўйхат, 90-йиғма жилд, 129-варақ.
- [21].А. Тоғаева, Ўзбекистонда Урбанизация Жараёнлари Ва Шаҳар Маданияти Муаммолари (1950-1990 Йиллар), Тошкент, Uzbekistan: Yangi Nashr, 2017, p. 94.

- [22]. А. Мавлонов, Чўл Урбанизацияси, Бухоро, Uzbekistan: Durdona, 2015, p. 45.
- [23]. Бухоро Вилояти Давлат Архиви, 37-фонд, 4-рўйхат, 1097-йиғма жилд, 45-варақ.
- [24]. Бухоро Вилояти Давлат Архиви, 37-фонд, 4-рўйхат, 1097-йиғма жилд, 20-варақ.
- [25].H. N. Zakirovna, "Administrative-Territorial Structure of Bukhara: History and Modern Times," Asian Journal of Social Sciences and History.
- [26].H. N. Zakirovna, "Issues of Repair and Maintenance of Historical and Cultural Monuments in Bukhara," International Journal of Intellectual Cultural Heritage, 2022.