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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

## ISSUES OF ORIGIN, DEVELOPMENT AND PROBLEMS OF RADIO IN UZBEKISTAN (1927-1941)

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Information on the origin and development of radio in Uzbekistan, its material and technical condition and staffing in the early years. The article also provides detailed information on the work carried out during the period of the national development of broadcast networks up to 1941, but also covers the issues of broadcasting, the volume and the content of the first stage of the radio installation process. In addition, the article gives an overview of the regional and city radio installation and specific facts about the emergence of regional radios.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Radio has played an immense role in providing constant information about the population's need for information, government policies and all other areas that, in the context of the Soviet system, was virtually the only source of information. Today, however, scientific and technological progress is steadily increasing. Radio, in particular, has made great strides over the time it has been studied, and has been making great strides. However, radio is lagging behind the possibilities of using the Internet. Research results show that radio has many advantages over other media outlets, which are used by very few people. For this reason, the historically scientific coverage of radio services over the past 70 years of the 20th century will add to its relevance today. Research on the origin and operation of radio in Uzbekistan is a methodological basis for this study. The scientific works of philologists R. Abdusattorov and Nishanbaev are of great importance in this regard (1). Their research covered the issues of journalism in Uzbekistan. The history of the formation of the Uzbek radio until 1937 was investigated by B. Rihsiev (2). In his scientific work, A.F. Yesin studied radio and television from a historical point of view (3). Papers of S.E. Smirnov (4) and R. Rahmonov (5) on radio activity are also of special interest.

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Also, the history of Karakalpakstan's radio activity in the 1930-1990's period was studied by T. Madrayimov (6), the role of the media, especially radio, in the development of cultural life of the republic in 1950-1990's have been studied by Mavrulov and Y. Ergasheva (7). It is noteworthy that these studies have covered various periods and the activities of the country's radio installation. In Uzbekistan, the process of complete shutdown of the radio installation process, its material and technical condition, the issue of radio journalistic staff and the process of coverage of the population with radio are not systematically studied. The radio of the republic shows that it was not fully covered in history, both in the Soviet and post-Soviet years. There is a lot of information on the history of radio installation in the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the incomplete analysis of the scientific coverage of the history of the radio in the country requires a scientific study of the subject. The first radio in Central Asia appeared on 11 February 1927 in Tashkent. Radio broadcasting in Uzbekistan began in 1926, and the building of the 13th Novaya Street in Tashkent was allocated for the construction of Tashkent radio station. (9) The station was completed by the end of January 1926 and submitted to the Central Asian Economic Council. Experienced specialists from Leningrad worked at the radio station (11). Central Asia Bureau of the All-Union Trade Union Council (CABUTC) issued a directive on April 16, 1927, to build a 25-kW radio station in Tashkent. The construction of a powerful radio station would provide radio broadcasts throughout Central Asia (13).

In this regard, a number of measures have been taken to develop radiation in the country. In particular, the decision of the Council of People's Commissars of the UzSSR in 1928 to immediately develop radio installation in Uzbekistan and increase the number of radio points to 400 shows that much attention was given to the country's radio installation during these years. As a result of the construction of a 25 kilowatt broadband station in Tashkent in 1929, the number of radio stations in the country increased (15). Now radio programs of Tashkent radio station reach the Pamir and Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan, Khorezm and Karakalpakstan, as well as Afghanistan. Initially, it was broadcast on Tashkent radio three or four times a week: from 5 to 7 in Russian and from 7 to 9 in the Uzbek language (17). Tashkent broadcasts have also reached faraway places. In particular, it was heard in cities such as Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk, Turuhansk, Tomsk, Omsk, Petropavlovsk, Irbit, Sverdlovsk, Kazan, Samara, Kushka, Merv, Kheva, Turtkul, Dushanbe (18). As a result of the launch of a powerful radio station, by the 1930s many radio stations were broadcast in many cities of the country (19). In particular, in the second half of the 1930s, special attention was paid to radiation in Tashkent and Tashkent region. In 1935 in the Durman settlement of the Tashkent region the reception radio station number 2 was put into operation, equipped with 30 microwave antennas, covering 60 hectares. A radio station number 4 on the area of 16 hectares, equipped with 15 antennas, was commissioned in the Barefoot in Tashkent. Along with the launch of the receiving radio stations, this year, the 5th radio station was built in Yunusabad area. The station is located on 41 hectares and has 16 shortwave reception antennas and 20 kW transmission antennas. As a result, radio communication channels were established to communicate with the capitals of all countries (20).

As a result of measures undertaken by the country's radio installation process, by 1934 the total volume of broadcasting for the population of the republic reached 1000 hours (21). By 1935 the number of radio points in Namangan was 333, in Bukhara - 370, in Fergana - 425, in Andijan - 647, in Samarkand - 684, and in 1936 reached 20,000 (72), and by the end of 1940 the radio broadcasting process in the country was positive (23). In addition, a lot of work had been done to equip radio equipment, which was an important factor for radio installation management. In the early years of Tashkent radio, the radio station consisted of only two radio studio centers, two broadcast nodes, two hardware and two orchestras (24), during those years, three radio speakers in Tashkent were made of paper. One was set up at the Palace of Labor, the other at the Revolutionary Alley and the third in the Jordan. It was impossible to develop radiation process in the country together with its material and technical base. Nevertheless, the national government pays special attention to the equipment and equipment needed for radiation. In 1927, the plant of "Slaby Tok" distributed radio equipment to the population, but these devices were not sufficient for the needs of the population. In this regard, in April 1928 representatives of the Postal and Telegraph Commissariat of the UzSSR examined the need for radio equipment among the population in the country. On March 20, 1927, the Postal and Telegraph People's Commissariat signed an agreement with the Accumulator Trust Plant to supply the radio stations with the necessary equipment and to install the factory specialists. The equipment required for the Tashkent radio station was supplied by the "Battery

Trust" plant on March 31, 1927, approved by Tashkent Radio Station. The factory electricians I.N.Sobolev and V.S. Sergeev began the installation of equipment at Tashkent radio station on May 18, 1927, and on July 2, 1927 installed the necessary equipment for the radio station. Although the radio equipment was still in use during the period from 1928 to 1929, the technical condition of the radio was poor, because, the republic did not have sufficient financial resources to provide the republic with necessary equipment. In particular, despite the fact that the first half of the 1928-1929 budget year ended, trade organizations had insufficient capacity to order radio equipment, Chairman of the Mail and Telegraph People's Commissariat of the Uzbek SSR Makhryakov transferred the radio and transfer authority to the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the UzSSR asked to take action within the framework of this policy (29). Even in the 1930s, no equipment was used in the radio technical condition. Because of the lack of recording equipment, the concert was broadcast live, and they spent the night in the radio house. Even in the early 1940s, the Radio Committee of Uzbekistan was poorly equipped with technical equipment. In 1941, it was noted that the sound was recorded in two ways - photoelectric and mechanical - with the use of film tapes and the second with gramophone plates (30). Also, the issue of personnel needed to carry out radio installation works in the country was of great importance. By January 10, 1927, the Council of People's Commissars issued an order on the selection and employment of the radio from among party members. According to this order, in 1927, P. Bogdanov, S. Malchenskiy, A. Kirov, F. Andreev, A. Mereshchenko were recruited to the radio. Also, from 1927, the Radio Committee has established separate sections, which include the offices of warders and cleaners. In addition, militarized security units were established, all equipped with weapons. These documents show that in the early years of the radio, the radio stations were mainly of European ethnicity, as there was a lack of staff from the local population.

By the end of 1927 there were 76 staffs of the radio station in Tashkent, of which 40 were men and 5 were women. More than 70 percent of Russians and other ethnicities did not speak Uzbek. Since January 1928, the Uzbek branch of the radio had been established and its first dictator was Nazirhon Kamolov. Nazirkhon Kamolov was a senior lecturer at the Osh State Pedagogical Institute. Nazirkhon Kamalov was invited to work for the radio by the head of the Russian branch of Tashkent radio station. Nazirkhon Kamolov has been a speaker and head of the Uzbek department of radio since 1928. Nazirhon Kamolov worked until June 1928. During this short period, Nazirhon Kamolov worked to expand the staff of the Tashkent Broadcasting Station. In particular, Old City artists brought their voices to the radio and organized concert programs on the radio. The concert program was supported by talented artists Yunus Rajabiy, Rizqi Rajabi, O.Imomhojaev and later Mulla Tuychi Tashmuhammedov. Hajimurod Avazhodjayev and Fatima Yunusova, one of the initiators of broadcasting in our country, have a special place. The salaries of the radio staff were set at a maximum of 156 rubles 31 tiyn, and an average of 70 rubles 40 to 75 rubles 80 tiyn, and the minimum wage was 20 rubles 30 tiyin (34). A special provision had been developed for the staff and staff of the radio station, which outlines the duties and responsibilities of all radio staff (35). As the radio became a new industry in the country, the majority of the radio personnel were casual people in the 1940s, most of whom were educated people. In particular, according to the Communication Services Inspection Act of 1933, threequarters of radio personnel were educated with secondary education (36). In spite of the problems and shortcomings in the organizational, logistical and personnel issues of the radiation work of the republic, the time and scope of the radio broadcasts have increased. The two-hour broadcast was broadcast from 18:00 to 20:00 on the first day of the first radio station in Tashkent (11.02.1927). The same day, the first president of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, Yuldash Ahunbabaev, announced at the Palace of Labor in Tashkent that radio broadcasting was being established in the country. The first broadcast from the Tashkent radio station lasted only two hours, but the amount of time was rapidly increasing. From March 1927, the weekly issue of the Pravda Vostoka newspaper was broadcast. In particular, the June 1927 broadcast was completely outlined. The daily number of programs includes a 30-minute broadcast for radio audience tips on how to use the radio. Radio broadcasts are set by the party's management before the 25th of each month (40). Unlike 1927, the broadcast programs of 1928 show that by 1928 there was no radio consultation program. By this year, with broadcasts increasing, radio consultations were being held in various institutions in the city and district centers since 1928, because by 1928 the radio had received many letters. In it, the audience addressed issues that were of concern to them. During the two years since the station was launched (February 11, 1927), more than 2,000 letters were sent to the radio. It was not possible for the radio to respond to the letters received in these years. The airtime was fixed and was mainly devoted to topical issues outlined above. For this reason, from 1928, radio laboratories were established at radio stations. Radio laboratories come in two forms and are organized in subdistrict centers and light-regional centers (41).

As the radio became a new industry in the country, the majority of the radio personnel were casual people in the 1940s, most of whom were educated people. In particular, according to the Communication Services Inspection Act of 1933, threequarters of radio personnel were educated with secondary education (36). As a result of these efforts, we can see that by 1934 the number of broadcasting programs in the country had significantly increased. In particular, the broadcasts were broadcasted in 8 Uzbek, Russian, Tajik, Persian, Tatar, Armenian, German, and European languages, with a daily average of 7.5 hours of music (49.3%), literary and dramatic (4.4%)., listening to broadcasts for children (26%), education (6.6%), and information (13.7%). This figure increased by two and a half to three times during the last quarter of 1940 (43). Especially since the beginning of the Second World War in 1941, the number and time of radio broadcasts have increased. "Everything is for the front!", "Everything is for victory!" these vicious called put a great deal of responsibility on the national radio staff. Since the beginning of World War II, all areas of the republic have been militarized. In particular, the process began primarily on radio. The program of broadcasting has been radically changed. Radio has become the front-runner and the most responsive media outlet. Every day, the Uzbek radio broadcasts were broadcast to the public on the heroic and bravery of the Soviet Army in front, with combat scenes, as well as on the actual issues behind the front. Many factories and factories were relocated to Uzbekistan. Tashkent radio has

reported that warplanes manufactured at Moscow's Chkalov Fleet flew straight to the front of the front, killing the Nazi troops, and the enemy tanks loaded with eschelons from Tashkent. Uzbekistan has repeatedly stressed that it has become a front desk. In order to help the front, radio reporters reported that workers in two shifts paid part of their wages, donating their last funds to the planes and tanks for the front, and bringing food and clothing from Uzbekistan to the front. (44)

As the radio became a new industry in the country, the majority of the radio personnel were casual people in the 1940s, most of whom were educated people. In particular, according to the Communication Services Inspection Act of 1933, three-quarters of radio personnel were educated with secondary education (36). Most Uzbek radio workers listened to the Soviet news bulletin, the latest news articles, the Pravda newspaper's main article and review. They immediately translated these materials into the Uzbek language and delivered them to the people of the country at any cost. During the war, only about 2,000 messages from the Soviet Information Bureau were translated into Uzbek. Based on the most important material broadcast on Moscow radio, Uzbek radio journalists provided hundreds of reports under the last hour broadcast.

The latest information program had been expanded. It aired every two weeks. The people were trying not to miss any program. Every evening the artists would come to the radio. In particular, the ensemble led by Yunus Rajabi, Jurakhon Sultanov, Mamurjon Uzoqov, Karim Muminov and Berta Davidova were preparing for the concert from 9 am to 10 pm. He was accompanied by Tuygungun Yunuskhodjaeva and Hamid Gulam. During the first stage of the process of radio broadcasting in the country, radio programs from several regions of the country were organized. In November 1927, a radio station was launched in the then capital of Uzbekistan, Samarkand. (47) The construction of the first radio station in Bukhara region began in 1926 (48) and since the end of 1927 the region has been broadcasting regularly (49). Likewise, the provinces and cities of the valley were important in every respect, and could not be avoided. In particular, in the beginning of 1932 in Fergana the editorial office of radio broadcasting was established. In the early years of the Fergana regional radio, radio broadcasts took place 1 hour and 30 minutes a week in three languages - Uzbek, Russian and Tajik (50). There were 425 radio stations in the Ferghana region in 1935 (51), and in 1941, like all other cities in Uzbekistan, the radiation work for the Ferghana city, district centers, state farms and collective farms was significantly revitalized (52). In Andijan in 1928 there were 274 radio stations (53), and in 1933 it was planned to launch radio communications in Andijan-Baysun and Sariasiya Mirabad districts (54). The regional broadcasting in Andijan began in 1934 (55) and by 1935 the number of radio stations in the region was 647. (56). The first radio broadcasts in Namangan began on May 1, 1932, in one of the dormitories of the Mullah Kyrgyz Madrassah in Namangan. In 1932 radio receivers were installed at the Red Ranch farm in Uychi district, cotton picking stations in Ertakay and Yangikurgan, and in Esin village of Namangan region. (57) In 1934, there were 333 radio stations in Namangan. A 100-point radio station will also be built in the central district of Naryn. In Karakalpakstan on December 17, 1931, in Khorezm on January 15, 1936, and in Termez in 1940, the provincial broadcasts were established (59). There were 20,000 radio points in Uzbekistan in 1936 (60). By the end of 1940 the number of radio stations in Uzbekistan had reached 72,000. Nevertheless, the authorities had acknowledged that radio was not enlarged in Uzbekistan, and that was due to two reasons the lack of specialists and the low level of radio equipment. On the whole, the process of establishment of radio in Uzbekistan was of great importance for the development of political, economic, social and, most importantly, cultural sphere in the country. The availability of information on Uzbek radio in many funds of the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan testifies to the fact that radio broadcasts in all areas. For this reason, the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan are the main and primary source of coverage of the history of radio in Uzbekistan. The analysis of information on the establishment of radio in Uzbekistan in 1927-1941, operation of radio stations, their material and technical support, and staffing shows that the first stage of the long-term radio installation process in the Republic was a historical necessity. During the first period of the radio installation process, radio was a major propagandist for all sectors of society and made a significant contribution to the development of the industry. Research on the subject and the analysis of archival documents and literature indicate that the list of radio listeners studied in the past and beyond has been largely analyzed, and the need for a more in-depth analysis of the impact of broadcasters and the government.

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