

## ON THE HISTORY OF AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION

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**Anattation.** The article contains information about the introduction of new agricultural tractors into the economy of the republic in the 1920-30s and the socio-economic life of the local population

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In the territory of Uzbekistan, farming culture has been formed at a high level since ancient times. Our President, Sh. Mirziyoyev's decision of November 11, 2021 "On measures to organize an agricultural machinery cluster in the city of Chirchik" [1] increases its relevance even today. Agriculture is one of the ancient industries in the world. Agricultural crops require tools to plow the soil, plant seeds to the required depth, and create opportunities for their germination and growth. But for many years, farming in our territory was done with heavy manual labor. It is no secret that the socio-economic life of the farmers was unique even during the recent colonial period. Even at the beginning of the 20th century, it was not possible to get a good yield due to the lack of modern techniques, the lack of agro technical knowledge in their operation, and the backwardness of irrigation facilities.

It is necessary to study the agricultural life, lifestyle and daily work of the villagers in different periods of our country's history. The issues of studying and researching this period have always been significant. But during the colonial period, it was studied based on a one-sided approach and no real conclusions were made. Foreign specialists also conducted research on this period. For example, the works of compatriots and foreign researchers who explained the cotton policy of the Soviet authorities after the October coup occupy a special place in the historiography of the problem.

We know that the plow began to appear in Russia in the 8th-9th centuries, during the formation of Kievan Rus. The first plough with metal working bodies, attached to horses, began to appear in the 17th century. In Russia, mass production of plugs for horses began in 1802. Mechanically driven ploughs were produced after 1917. The first tractor ploughs were made in Odessa since 1925. The

creation and development of plows in Uzbekistan is directly related to world civilization. At first, we also used wooden plows as a tool for plowing the soil.

It was very difficult to provide agriculture with equipment even during the Soviet Union reign. From 1900 to 1916, only 2,400,000 soums [2] were allocated for the provision of agricultural machinery and equipment in Central Asia. It should be noted that 93 percent of the above equipment was purchased by representatives of other nationalities, and only 7 percent of equipment was purchased by local nationals.

The Bolsheviks did not follow the main provisions of the decree "On Land". As in the center of Russia, in Turkestan, all land was turned into state property, the specific features of the local land structure were not taken into account, and a system of land generalization in the autocratic style was implemented. Such a policy was carried out mainly under the guise of the idea of "constant care for the people", and the "revolutionary sword" that ended the local government was used again. Between the end of 1917 and the summer of 1918, the property of the rich, merchants, and landowners who lived without work were confiscated, or more than 100,000 tens of acres of land were seized by the beginning of 1919 [3].

Later, the lands of the wealthy were also confiscated. The Italian Luigi Silippo called the agrarian policy of the Soviet government during the period of "military communism" a "terrorist policy" [4] directly against the peasants, while Charles Bouvet said that "the NEP was not only politically stagnant, but in some respects it was also a depression ... of the peasants [5]." His comments are close to the truth. Walter Pinter, in the course of the new economic policy - the land and water reform carried out in 1921-1922 - was not the implementation of the agrarian program of the Communist Party, but was a "temporary tool designed to achieve the neutrality of the local farmers, and this reform never had an effect in some districts." notes [6]. American researcher M. Rivkin in his book "Russia in Central Asia" [7]. "This reform, which started in 1921 and continued until 1925-1929, did not bring practical results and did not live up to expectations," while J. Willer said that these agrarian reforms were "a means of freeing the peasants from all ties with the past." It is known that the Bolshevik program of "socialist transformation of the countryside" was announced shortly after the October coup. In accordance with the decision of the Turkestan State Council of December 6, 1917, the sale and purchase of land in the country was prohibited. Except for the lands belonging to the state, all the lands were transferred to the regional and uezd soviets. Only the lands in the hands of the hardworking peasants were left. It was forbidden to rent land or in some cases it was given for a period of one year with the permission of villages, villages and committees [8]. This in itself shows that the Soviet system used the method of the successor of the policy of the tsarist government, which worked in the field of looting and taking free natural resources of Uzbekistan, first of all, the method of acquiring the land, which is the main wealth of the people.

Around 1923, the first "Fordzon" brand tractors were brought to the fields of Uzbekistan. At first, this car was viewed with distrust. But the ride quality is better than riding a horse plough, and on top of that, the fuel consumption is slightly lower, which has changed the misconception about the tractor.

There were only 39 tractors in the republic. In 1924, the executive committee of Fergana region sent the following telegram: "The tractors sent to Fergana region were given one to each uezd. Due to the high demand for tractors by the population, the executive committee of Fergana region considers it necessary to send five more tractors" [9].

In the republic, 316 tractors in 1925 increased to 494 in 1926. The number of tractors in Uzbekistan reached 1067 in 1927, and the weight of this machine was 7.4%. By 1928, there were 49,000 hectares of land plowed by tractors. The delivery of tractors increased year by year, car rental points increased, and by the time MTS was established, such points had reached 300 [10].

From 1925, agricultural machinery began to enter the republic, and some progress was made in providing farmers with machinery. The increase in the number of techniques led to the increase of the economic potential of the state and the material development of agriculture. During this period, the first tractors gradually began to enter our republic, and their number increased more and more [11].

The introduction of cotton farming techniques increased the need for specialist personnel. But the establishment of government personnel training was carried out with irregular processes. The local population could not use the technology for many years due to lack of experience. In the early years of using tractors in cotton farming, three to five of these machines were organized into one brigade. In those years, the "Fardzon" brand tractor was used, later this machine was replaced by the "International" brand tractor. Tractors were used only for plowing and in one shift. The brigade was headed by a mechanic. He was responsible for the organization of tractor work, control over the technical condition of tractors, taking into account plowed land and proper formalization of the work done.

MTSs also played an important role in the development of agriculture and the improvement of the material and technical base of cotton growing. In 1930, there were 6 MTSs in the republic, but by 1931, this number increased to 48, in 1932 to 67, and in 1933 to 72. In 1931, 343,000 lands were plowed with the help of existing MTSs in the republic [12].

However, at the same time, the role of mechanization in planting, cultivating, and harvesting remained low. As a proof of our opinion, it should be said that in 1933, only 1730 hectares of land on all collective farms, or 0.2% of all cotton fields, were planted with the help of tractors.

The low level of use of tractors and other equipment consists of the following: a) lack of qualified tractor drivers and their frequent dismissal; b) extremely low level of education in educational institutions training tractor drivers; c) low quality of tractor repair; g) lack of personnel training, lack of experience greatly affected the efficiency of the equipment.

By 1932, it was planned to increase the mechanization of cotton fields to 90%, and the planting of crops by machines to 70%. Unfortunately, these tasks were not fulfilled: only 42% of the land was cultivated with the help of mechanization, only 8% of the crop was planted with the help of tractors, and only 3% was cultivated. The biggest and main reason for these shortcomings was the extremely late and slow assimilation of new technology by collective farms, state farms, and MTSs. In Central Asia in 1932, 60% of all existing tractors worked, and only 2% of tractor trailers worked.

In addition, there were shortcomings in organizing mechanization in cotton growing and introducing it to production, little attention was paid to research and development. In particular, in some

scientific works, there were cases of mechanization experience in grain crops being introduced in cotton cultivation.

In the early years of Soviet rule, the method of growing cotton was no different from the old method. But due to the lack of equipment, for many years, local horse-drawn agricultural equipment was used. In the following years, with the introduction of new equipment, plowing of the land, planting of seeds in rows, and horse cultivators were continued.

In the following years, several brigades in one district were united into one squad, and now there are 15-20 tractors in one squad. The squad was led by an instructor. The detachment was subordinated to a cotton factory or a seed farm in the district where tractor work was carried out. The factory or seed holdings had to provide the squad with all the necessary things, find work for the tractors and carry out accounting work. Since the middle of the twenties, the tractor section under the agricultural department of the "Uzbekkhlopka" administration in Tashkent led the work of all detachments.

Collectivization works were carried out in the regions where the first MTS was established in the republic and it was evaluated as successful. For example, in 1930, 32% of peasant farms were collectivized in areas without MTS, and 56% in regions with MTS. It is decided that MTS will perform the basic agricultural work in collective farms with the help of its own machines by concluding a contract, give advice to the collective farm in terms of organizational strengthening and agricultural work, and actively implement science and advanced achievements.

In conclusion, it should be said that, in order to develop cotton production in Uzbekistan, the introduction of agricultural machinery has facilitated the work in agriculture, but in fact, it did not lead to major changes in the life and lifestyle of local farmers. Due to the lack of experience in the management of the machinery, the population was forced to carry out cotton cultivation by hand for many years. Described as "steel horses", tractors were difficult for farmers to get used to and learn for a long time. The way of life of the local population remained harsh. Heavy labor in folk agriculture continued to be done by hand. As a result of the policy of the Soviet government in the field of agriculture, it implemented its national policy aimed at the formation of a special Soviet people through its national policy. Therefore, the economic opportunities of the local population changed little due to the introduction of agricultural machinery. The common people were armed with extremely simple, simple equipment such as a plow, a trowel, a hoe, and a scythe. Many farmers had no idea about the new tractors. They also imagined tractors in the form of various monsters among the people, even when the tractor was moving loudly, the people around them could not come near it because of the sound of the tractor. These cases were great news for farmers.

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