



# TRANSFER OF ECONOMIC LIFE IN UZBEKISTAN AFTER WORLD WAR II TO A PEACEFUL TRACK: PROBLEMS, RESULTS AND MISTAKES

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<b>Received:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	In this article, the transition of the national economy to a state of peace in the years after the war in Uzbekistan, the measures taken in this regard, its results, mistakes and shortcomings, and its consequences are described based on a new historical perspective, based on primary sources.
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**INTRODUCTION:** During the Second World War, Uzbekistan became a major front-line arsenal. The Uzbek people contributed to the victory with their hard work at the front and behind the front. "Although this victory was very expensive for us, millions of our people were killed, thousands of cities and regions were destroyed, but the joy of the people could not be contained. Material losses were measured by astronomical figures. People's hunger and hunger, the severity of domestic, residential and communal conditions, long-lasting, incredible physical and mental strain were felt on all fronts, and the enormous damage done to the spiritual and moral front could not be compensated by anything. It would not be possible" - writes war and labor veteran N. Muhitdinov [1].

In such conditions, before the leadership and people of the republic, it is necessary to restore the destroyed economy, move production to peacetime conditions, improve people's lives, cancel the card system, establish free trade, increase the value of money, material goods. there were urgent tasks such as increasing the production of mats and expanding the construction of settlements.

**ANALYSIS AND RESULTS:** Supporters of the administrative command system believed that the victory in the war was achieved through the strict centralization of work organization and administrative procedures of management. For this reason, he strictly adhered to the command system of management. In such circumstances, it would be unthinkable to give freedom to the development of the allied republics. The entire system of governing the Union was decided behind the walls of the Kremlin. Naturally, in such circumstances, the rights of the allied republics were restricted in every way. In addition, the allied republics were condemned to live under orders and favors from the center. The complex life conditions of the post-war years made it clear to the leadership of the Union that it was necessary to change the strategy and tactics of socio-economic development and improve the management system. This demand and need was required not only by the objective factors of reconstruction of the national economy in accordance with the conditions of the peaceful period, but also by the special moral spirit of the society of those years. Nevertheless, even in the years after the war, the state's activities were determined by the absolute rule of the party. The authoritarian policy of the party, based on giving orders far from practice, primarily decided everything based on the interests of the center. The severe consequences of the war covered all spheres of life in Uzbekistan. In the process of restoring the republic's industry to the peaceful era, the need to supply the population with food and industrial goods, raw materials, as well as skilled workers and engineers was seriously felt. In order to solve such a complex task, it was necessary to take into account the natural and geographical situation of Uzbekistan, national traditions, values, lifestyle and wishes of the people, in short, it was necessary to establish economic life based on the interests of the people. However, the directive bodies of the Union did not do this, on the contrary, plans were developed based on the interests of the Center in the restoration and development of the economy of Uzbekistan[21].

The general strategy of economic construction of the Communist Party and the Union Government in the post-war period was stated in the Law on the Five-Year Plan for the Reconstruction and Development of the National Economy of the USSR for 1946-1950, which was adopted and approved by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on March 18, 1946. had given[2]. Based on this directive document, the main tasks of post-war construction in Uzbekistan were defined in the five-year plan for the reconstruction and development of the national economy for 1946-1950[3].

This five-year plan was reviewed and approved at the eighth session of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR held on August 30, 1946. In this plan, it was envisaged to complete the reconstruction of the national economy of the republic in 1946 and bring production to the pre-war level in 1948[4]. During this period, the main

branches of Uzbekistan's economy specialized in the supply of raw materials. In the five-year task program, great attention was paid to the task of restoring the pre-war level of cotton production and increasing it further. He considered cotton growing as the main branch of the national economy of the republic. For this reason, the needs of the cotton sector were taken into account in the development of the republic's industry. By the end of 1945, machine-building enterprises in Uzbekistan were transferred to the production of various machines and equipment for the needs of agriculture and irrigation. In the five-year plan for the development of the national economy of the Uzbek SSR for 1946-1950, it was envisaged to increase industrial products in the republic by 52% [5]. First of all, tasks such as completing the complex mechanization of cotton production, especially cotton harvesting, were set. It was clear that these indicators, which were set in the offices in a party-like manner without taking into account the existing situation and opportunities in the places, could not be achieved. In practice, this happened and most of the plans were not implemented. However, Uzbeks worked tirelessly to restore and further develop the economy [22]. Due to such tireless work and special dedication of the leadership of the republic at that time, more than 150 new industrial enterprises were built and put into operation in the republic in 1946-1950 [6]. In particular, the first and second lines of the Farhod HPP, which ranks third in the USSR in terms of capacity, were built and put into operation during this period. In addition, hydroelectric power stations such as 1-Aqqavoq, 1-Bozsuv, 2-Bozsuv were built. In 1946, a new rolling shop of the Uzbek Metallurgical Combine was launched. In particular, such factories as "Tashselmash", "Uzbekselmash", "Chirchikselmash", "Krasniy dvigatel" in Samarkand expanded the production of machines related to cotton growing [7]. In 1946, machine and tractor stations and state farms of Uzbekistan received 846 chain tractors, 1074 trucks and 1240 tractor plows from the state [8]. In April 1949, a new model of the SXM-48 cotton picking machine was created [9].

By the end of 1949, 600 SXM-48 cotton picking machines were produced in the republic. However, these cotton picking machines were not yet very advanced. Despite this, the fleet of cotton picking equipment has been increasing year by year. By 1950, there were 3,600 cotton picking machines in the collective farms, state farms and MTSs in Uzbekistan [10]. During this period, the fuel industry also recovered to some extent. In particular, the Polvontash and Southern Olamushuk, Moyli, Shahrikhan, Kakaydi and Lalmikor oil fields were commissioned. Oil workers of Uzbekistan completed the fourth five-year plan in three years, on December 10, 1948. 1241 tons of oil were produced per year, and the current plan was fulfilled by 106.2%. Comparing the oil produced in 1948 with the indicators of 1940, during this period oil production increased 9 times compared to 1940 and 3 times compared to 1945. By 1950, 52 million cubic meters of gas were extracted. In this year, the rate of gas extraction increased 4 times compared to 1946 [11].

During this period, light industry also grew somewhat in the republic. In particular, new textile factories in Fergana and Kokand, Tashkent knitting factory, spinning factories in Bukhara, Samarkand and Namangan were built and put into operation [12]. If the republic's light industrial enterprises produced 107 million meters of twine in 1941, 85 million meters were produced in 1945, and 161 million meters in 1950 [13]. In order to implement the five-year plan for 1946-1950, funds in the amount of 3 billion 900 million rubles were allocated for the restoration and development of the national economy of Uzbekistan, of which 1 billion 266 million were spent for republican and local needs [14]. A large part of the allocated funds was spent on the development of the central enterprises of the republic.

From the above example, it is not difficult to determine that the center allocated funds to the economy of the republic based on its interests. During this period, the rights of the republican government and administrative agencies were limited. In the ambitious plans of the center, Uzbekistan was considered only as an additional source of raw materials. The same thing led to the one-sided development of Uzbekistan's economy. As a result, very few industrial enterprises processing raw materials were built. This seriously hindered the implementation of social programs. In such a situation, it was very difficult to provide employment to the population of the Republic and create decent living conditions for people. In the programs of national economy, including industrial restoration, the tasks of development of industrial production related to cotton production were determined by the directive bodies of the Republic of the Republic. National and historical features of the republic's population, as well as economic needs, were not taken into account [23].

Reconstruction of the industry and transition to a peaceful path was carried out with great difficulties. On the basis of the centralized administrative command method of management, an effort was made to manage the economy with decrees and orders. Economic accounting, cooperation and rental system, various forms of ownership, shareholding and other similar world experience methods were completely rejected.

However, the tireless work of the people, special self-sacrifice, became the main factor in overcoming difficulties and shortcomings. Workers of industrial enterprises, agricultural workers, intellectuals, in short, representatives of all levels of the population worked tirelessly and diligently fulfilled their assigned tasks [24].

In this period, the people were not yet satisfied with bread and clothes, but they were eager to work in peaceful conditions. Because the heavy losses during the war greatly strengthened people's desire for peace and peaceful work. Due to the existence of this spirit, by 1950 the labor competition included 90.9% of all workers in the industry of Uzbekistan [15]. Of course, formality, coercion, and a certain degree of hypocrisy are allowed in this regard. However, despite the fact that the organization of the competition was given an ideological tone, the widespread use of methods of organizing work such as khashar, mutual support, and initiative became an important tool for increasing labor productivity.

Thanks to the hard work of the people, the five-year plans of the post-war reconstruction period were successfully completed. In particular, in 1946-1950, the gross output of Uzbekistan's industry increased by 1.8 times its pre-war level and by 71%. Production increased tenfold compared to 1940. Coal production increased by 46.5 percent, and oil production increased by 9 times. The production of the mechanical engineering industry increased 19 times from the level of 1940[16]. In particular, agricultural machinery has developed rapidly. During this period, many changes took place in the structure of industrial production of the republic. If before the war the share of heavy industry in the republic's industry was 13.3%, by 1950 it reached 47.2%[17]. The fundamental interests of the center became a determining factor in the development of heavy industry in the republic. In general, during the post-war recovery period, the republic's industry was somewhat developed[25].

However, this was a one-sided development, that is, attention was paid to the construction of primary raw material processing enterprises. Primary processed raw materials were regularly transported to central industrial enterprises. In addition to the fourth five-year guidelines, the decision of the Central Committee of the Central Committee of the CPSU and VKP (b) of July 14, 1945 "On measures to restore and further improve cotton production in Uzbekistan" and the 1946 decision of the CPSU of the USSR In the period of 1953, "On the plan and measures for the restoration and further improvement of cotton cultivation in Uzbekistan" on February 2, 1946, the tasks of cotton cultivation development in the Uzbek SSR in the first years after the war were determined[18]. In these decisions, the directive bodies of the center were to restore the pre-war level of cotton production in the republic in 1947, increase the amount of harvested cotton to 2,145,000 tons by 1950, and 2,400,000 tons by 1953, and increase the cotton yield to 15 centners in 1945 by the end of five years. instead of 22.4 centners per hectare, and in 1953 it was set to 25 centners[19].

**CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS:** In the years after the war, agricultural production became extremely weak in terms of organization and economy, labor resources were significantly reduced, and the production of cotton and other agricultural products decreased. In the tasks and orders issued by the center, the development of cotton production in Uzbekistan was strictly defined[20]. The document on the restoration and further development of cotton cultivation in Uzbekistan in 1946-1953 was also a decision that did not take into account the interests of the population of the republic and had a mandatory nature. The main criterion for the peaceful reconstruction of the republic's agriculture was to consistently expand the cotton cultivation areas and increase its weight in the total cultivated areas.

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