

## EVACUATION OF THE HUNGRY PEOPLE FROM VOLGA AND URAL REGIONS TO TURKESTAN

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***Abstract:** In the 20s of the 20th century, this article describes the evacuation of starving people from some regions of the USSR to the territory of the Turkestan ASSR, the establishment of "Hungry Reception Centers" to accommodate them, and the assistance of our hospitable and tolerant people to the immigrants. At the same time, with the help of archival sources and scientific literature, the reasons and consequences of this evacuation policy implemented by the Soviets, as well as the state and government support for the resettled people and the state of the work carried out were studied and the problems of this period were analyzed.*

***Key words:** evacuation, hungry people, refugees, central evacuation office, reception points, hunger relief commission.*

### INTRODUCTION

In 1921-1923, famine was leaving its terrible consequences in the central provinces of Russia (Volga, Southern Urals, Don), Ukraine and Kazakhstan [1]. Due to the impossibility of eliminating the scale and consequences of the disaster that befell these regions by the power of one state alone, the RSFSR involved all the socialist republics within its structure in this process. Therefore, Turkestan, which is in the vortex of economic difficulties, was involved in the solution of the problems related to famine.

### RESEARCH METHODS

The reason is that the Soviet authorities began to solve the problem of feeding the hungry in the famine-stricken regions by evacuating them to other regions. As a

result, hundreds of thousands of starving people from the Volga and Ural regions of Russia, where famine occurred, began to be evacuated with their families to the Turkestan ASSR by order of the Soviet authorities, and hundreds of thousands more starving refugees entered cities such as Tashkent, Samarkand, Skobelev (Ferghana) in various ways began to arrive [2]. Their food and clothing supplies were entrusted to the local population.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

From August 1921, the leadership of the Turkestan region began to accept and resettle the hungry people evacuated from the Volga and Ural regions of Russia, where the famine occurred. Issues such as providing medical care, food, and employment during the reception of the evacuees were resolved by the Turkestan Ministry of Education and Culture. According to the information provided in the available archive documents, the leadership of the Turkestan government, based on the country's economic, social and political situation, until the end of 1921, determined the measures for the placement of 100,000 hungry people who were being evacuated from the Volga, Ural regions of Russia to Ferghana and Ettisuv and other regions. was [3]. But the Bolshevik government explained to the country's leadership that 100,000 people to be evacuated from the famine-stricken areas of Russia to Turkestan was not enough, but on the contrary, it had to accept even more starving people.

Because the Soviet government considered the territory of Turkestan to be a "fertile area" for the evacuation of hungry people from the famine-stricken Volga and Ural regions of Russia. For this reason, on August 8, 1921, the Central Committee of Turkestan made a decision to accept an additional 200-220 thousand hungry people [4]. In this decision, based on the instructions of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee, it was determined that the hungry people being evacuated from the famine areas would live in Turkestan temporarily, that is, until the spring of 1922 [5]. As a result, starting from August 1921, hungry people who were transferred from the regions of Russia where famine occurred started to come

to Turkestan by rail and water. According to the initial plan for the evacuation of the hungry to Turkestan, the country had to receive 500 people from the Samara region, 438 people from Krasnovodsk, and 950-1000 people per day in general [6]. The evacuation of hungry people, which is increasing day by day, forced the leadership of the country to carry out organizational work, i.e. preparation for their accommodation and food supply in a wider scope. In this regard, the country's leadership began by distributing the accommodation of the hungry by region. Placement of the hungry in the cross-section of the regions is described in archival sources as follows. The government of Turkestan decided to settle the evacuated hungry people in Syrdarya, Samarkand, Tashkent and Fergana regions [7]. Not long after that, due to the large flow of hungry people coming to the country, resettlement work also started in the Turkmen region. In addition, Shymkent and Avliyota districts of Ettisuv region were designated as reserved areas for the settlement of the hungry [8].

The increase in the influx of hungry people from the Volga and Ural regions to Turkestan is due to the worsening of the situation in the famine-stricken regions of Russia and the increasing number of sick and dying people due to famine. In such a situation, the Center gave instructions to further increase the number of people to be transferred to Turkestan. In fact, in order to quickly implement the evacuation process and coordinate the activities between the OYO MK under the BMIQ and the OYO MK under the Turkestan MIQ, Salko in Samara and Chasovnikov in Astrakhan were appointed as authorized representatives of the Turkestan MIQ and the ISS [9]. It can also be said that the Center has assigned all organizational issues and expenses related to feeding, clothing, and providing medical care to the evacuees to the Republic of Turkestan.

Despite the complications and difficulties of the evacuation process, Turkestan had to accept thousands of people into its territory. According to the information of the evacuation department of Russia, 79,561 Russians, 16,326 Tatars, 9,622 Kazakhs, 3,677 Germans, and 441 Chuvash came to the country only from

September 1921 to the first half of February 1922, 3710 representatives of other nationalities were relocated as evacuations [10]. At this time, the total number of displaced people was 113337 people [11]. According to the instructions of the Center dated September 1, 1921, it was determined that it is the task of the People's Commissariat of Food of Turkestan and the Commission of Food and Agriculture to provide food, clothing, and shelter to those who are officially relocated from the famine-stricken areas of Russia and come as refugees [12].

At that time, the people of Turkestan were not in a good economic condition. However, the Center was not concerned about the situation of the Turkestans, on the contrary, it was more concerned about the problem of the hungry in the Volga and Ural regions. That is why the Center started to solve their problem by relocating the hungry as quickly and as much as possible to Volga and Ural regions. In addition, at its meeting on October 22, 1921, the Central Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, while discussing the process of evacuating the hungry from famine areas to Turkestan, told the Central Committee of Turkestan that 30,000 Muslims who could not be relocated from the famine areas of Russia should be "taken under their care with the guarantee of food supply." gave a new additional instruction [13]. However, 70,000 hungry people were officially evacuated from the Samara gubernia itself until October 1, 1921 to productive areas, as well as to the territories of the Turkestan ASSR [14]. The changes related to the increase in the number of displaced people prompted the Turkestan Ministry of Education and Culture to conduct additional activities, to eliminate the problems of providing food and clothing to the hungry.

The hungry people who were evacuated from the Volga, Ural regions were also given clothes by the country's aid commission for the hungry. All regional hunger relief commissions in the Turkestan ASSR participated in the collection of these clothes. These commissions took measures to donate food and clothes to the hungry people of Volga and Ural regions. The representatives of the local people did not pay attention to such events, but showed their humanity and gave donations as

much as they could. The center, ignoring the country's economic potential, made many demands on the country's leaders to help the hungry. That is why, based on the request and requirements sent from Russia, regular donation collection and support weeks have been held in Turkestan. On August 16-19, 1922, the Ferghana Region Aid to the Hungry Commission collected a lot of money and clothes within the framework of such a charity collection week. People of the country donated 8 million 120 thousand soums of money, 70 pounds of food, 40 arshins of textile products, that is, clothes, blankets, sheets, etc. to the hungry people of Russia.

### CONCLUSION

So, the evacuation process caused great difficulties for Turkestan. Because the population of Turkestan had just emerged from the famine (1917-1919) and was in the process of eliminating its consequences. However, the Center did not pay serious attention to this and moved several hundred thousand hungry people to the country. As a result, the economic situation of the country was again derailed. At this time, the people of Turkestan had to feed and clothe not only themselves, but also the hungry. Examples of kindness, generosity and tolerance were shown even to the hungry people brought to Turkestan as evacuations by the poor people of the country.

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