

THE NATIONAL POLICY OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IN UZBEKISTAN (THE EXAMPLE OF THE ARMENIAN NATION)

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The Soviet state operated in the world in the 20th century as the most multinational state. During its activity, this state paid special attention to national issues, aiming to create a "Soviet citizen (nation)" by gradually integrating the initially small nations, and later the large nations, into the "great" Russian nation. To achieve these goals, the plan was to strike at religious beliefs first, that is, to root out religion, and secondly, to eliminate the culture formed over centuries as outdated waste. This plan was implemented over several decades. Although the policy of the Soviet government, at first glance, may seem like a policy that protects the interests of existing nations, in reality, its true objectives are revealed during our study of the sources.

The government had already taken significant steps in this regard in Uzbekistan in the first half of the 20th century. That is, efforts were openly made to abolish churches and mosques with the aim of paralyzing the local population ideologically as much as possible, as well as turning such places into warehouses, entertainment venues, and in general, not for worship. As an example of this point, we can give the following examples. In a letter from the Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR, Azimov, to Okhunboboev in August 1940, it is recognized that the Samarkand City Executive Committee, contrary to the resolution of the Council of People's Commissars of Uzbekistan, has not yet transferred the Armenian church building to the drama theater and that it is necessary to urgently put the church building in order and hand over the building to the theater. It was emphasized that disciplinary measures should be taken against those responsible for delaying the implementation of the resolution of the Council of People's Commissars and that the execution should be sent by telegraph. This

process reveals the situation regarding the restriction of religion and has been recognized as the cause of many people becoming innocent culprits.

In a memorandum from Khojaeva, Deputy Chairman of the Samarkand Regional Executive Committee, to the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR, Abdurakhmanov, dated August 12, 1940, the Regional Executive Committee, by the decision of the Council of People's Commissars of the Uzbek SSR dated July 16, 1940, No. 1035, proposed the transfer of the former Armenian church building to the jurisdiction of the Russian Drama Theater. However, it was noted that taking into account the extremely acute situation with housing in the city of Samarkand and the proposal of the Council of People's Commissars in 1940 to expand it, taking into account the proposal of the Council of People's Commissars in 1940 to provide the Cooperative Technical School with buildings, the Armenian church building was forced to be transferred to this technical school in 1940. In a response letter from the Deputy Chairman of the Samarkand City Council of Workers' Deputies, Bukreev, dated August 26, 1940, No. 3019, it is stated: "In response to your telegram No. 3050 to the Uzbek SSR Council of People's Commissars, Medvedev, informs you that the Armenian church building was transferred to the technical school based on the order of the City Executive Committee of the Council of People's Commissars and the Regional Executive Committee on providing the Cooperative Technical School students with a dormitory." It is clear from the content of this document that local leaders did not deviate from the policy of the center. We can also see that they correctly assessed the situation and tried to solve the problems that needed to be addressed first.

In conclusion, it can be said that attempts were made to interfere with and restrict the religious activities and beliefs of other peoples, such as the Armenians, in various ways. There were no obstacles to the activities of Armenians during the Soviet period. Soviet ideology, in a sense, unintentionally paved the way for the formation of friendly relations between nations. The real purpose of the policy pursued can be assessed as an attempt to form a single Soviet nation.