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ACTIVITY OF FAYZULLA KHOJAYEV AS ONE OF THE FIRST LEADERS OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: :Fayzulla Khojayev initially studied at traditional schools and madrasas in Bukhara. Later, he traveled to Russia and pursued his education at the Moscow Commercial Institute (according to some sources, the Moscow Institute of Commerce). There, he acquired knowledge of modern economics, politics, and reform movements, while also becoming deeply acquainted with the ideas of Jadidism. This education had a significant influence on his subsequent political career.

Keywords: A. Mukhtor, “The Haunted Streets of Bukhara”; K. Yashin, “The Dawn of Revolution”; N. Naimov, “I Want to Live”.

Fayzulla Khojayev was one of the most prominent figures in the history of Uzbekistan, playing a significant role in the political and economic life of the country during the early twentieth century. He served as a leader of the Turkestan Autonomy and later became the first head of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic. This article examines his life, political activities, and tragic fate.

Fayzulla Khojayev was born in 1896 in Bukhara into a wealthy merchant family. His father, Ubaydulla Khojayev, was a prominent businessman who maintained commercial relations with Russia and other countries. During his youth, Fayzulla studied at a madrasa in Bukhara and later continued his education at a commercial academy in Moscow. Through his studies, he developed a strong interest in modern economic and political ideas, which would later shape his political views and activities.

After the February Revolution of 1917, Fayzulla Khojayev joined the Jadid movement and advocated for the reform of the Emirate of Bukhara. However, due to the conservative policies of the Emir, he and other Jadids faced persecution.

Following the establishment of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, Khojayev promoted programs aimed at agrarian reform, industrial development, and the improvement of literacy rates throughout the country.

Fayzulla Khojayev is remembered as one of the most influential figures in the history of Uzbekistan. During the years of independence, his name was rehabilitated, and his contributions were highly recognized. Today, streets and monuments bearing his name can be found in Tashkent and Bukhara.

Khojayev initially received his education in traditional schools and madrasas in Bukhara. Later, he traveled to Russia and studied at the Moscow Commercial Institute (according to some sources, the Moscow Institute of Commerce). There, he gained knowledge of modern economics, politics, and reform movements, while becoming deeply acquainted with the principles of Jadidism. This educational background had a profound influence on his future political activities.

His family, particularly his father Ubaydulla Khojayev, was engaged in international trade and maintained commercial relations with Russia and several European countries, including Germany.

As one of the leading representatives of the Jadid movement in Bukhara, Fayzulla Khojayev sought to implement significant reforms. In particular, after the overthrow of the Emirate of Bukhara in 1920 and the establishment of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, he initiated a broad program of political, economic, and social transformation.

Supporters of the Emir were subjected to political pressure, and forces attempting to restore the old order were suppressed. Large landed estates owned by beks, government officials, and wealthy elites were abolished. Land was redistributed among peasants, contributing to the development of agriculture. Feudal obligations and traditional taxes were eliminated, reducing the burdens on the rural population.

The educational system also underwent substantial reform. Traditional schools and madrasas were reorganized, and modern secular educational institutions were established. These reforms aimed to expand access to education, increase literacy, and promote the modernization of society in accordance with contemporary social and economic needs

Large-scale educational programs were implemented with the aim of increasing literacy rates among the population. Efforts were also made to encourage women's education and to promote their active participation in social and public life.

Plans were developed for the construction of new factories and industrial enterprises. Projects aimed at improving urban infrastructure were launched, including the construction of roads, bridges, and power stations. At the same time, the influence of religious institutions on government affairs began to be restricted. Measures were introduced to advance women's rights and freedoms, including initiatives designed to reduce the prevalence of practices associated with social seclusion and other traditional customs that limited women's participation in public life.

Although these reforms received support from the progressive segments of society, they encountered strong resistance from supporters of the old order, including former officials, religious scholars, and wealthy landowners. With the establishment of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic in 1924, the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic ceased to exist, and Khojayev's reform agenda was expanded and continued on a broader scale throughout Uzbekistan.

During the period of Stalinist repression, Fayzulla Khojayev was arrested in 1937 on charges of being an "enemy of the people." In 1938, he was executed. Following Uzbekistan's independence, his name was officially rehabilitated, and his historical legacy was restored.

The reforms initiated by Fayzulla Khojayev in Bukhara remain one of the most significant stages in the region's transition toward modern state-building and social modernization.

Descendants of Fayzulla Khojayev

Available historical sources indicate that Fayzulla Khojayev had four children. Unfortunately, one of his daughters and one of his sons died at an early age. Information regarding his two surviving children and their descendants is limited and not clearly documented in publicly available sources.

In addition, Khojayev's nephew, Sulaymon Inoyatov, was a prominent historian who served as a Doctor of Historical Sciences and worked at the Bukhara State University. Overall, comprehensive and reliable information about Fayzulla Khojayev's descendants remains scarce in the public domain.

Temurkhoja is considered to be a nephew of Fayzulla Khojayev. His full name is Temur Khoja ogli, and he was born and raised in Türkiye. He is recognized as one of the descendants of Fayzulla Khojayev, and some information regarding his life and activities has been documented.

The life and activities of Fayzulla Khojayev have been extensively studied in Uzbek historiography. In 1996, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth, nationwide

commemorative events were organized in accordance with a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. A collection of memoirs and materials dedicated to Khojayev's life and legacy was also published to mark the anniversary.

A number of historical studies and literary works have been devoted to Khojayev's political career, reform initiatives, and contributions to national development. Among the most notable are A. Mukhtor's novella "The Haunted Streets of Bukhara", K. Yashin's drama "The Dawn of Revolution", and N. Naimov's documentary-style novel "I Want to Live". These works portray various aspects of Fayzulla Khojayev's life, political struggles, and historical significance.

In addition, historians have published numerous scholarly articles and monographs examining Khojayev's activities as a statesman, historian, and economist, as well as his contributions to the economic and cultural development of Uzbekistan. These studies analyze his role in the Jadid reform movement, his participation in the establishment of the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic, and his activities during the Soviet period.

Overall, the life and work of Fayzulla Khojayev remain among the most important subjects in Uzbek historiography. Scholarly research on his political legacy, reformist ideas, and historical contributions continues to this day, reflecting his enduring significance in the nation's history.

Conclusion

Fayzulla Khojayev occupies a significant place in the history of Uzbekistan as one of the country's most influential political and public figures. His reform initiatives and political activities contributed substantially to the modernization and development of society during a critical period of transformation. At the same time, his tragic fate serves as a reminder of the harsh realities of the Stalinist repressions and the broader injustices of the Soviet regime. Nevertheless, his legacy continues to be honored and studied, and his contributions to the political, economic, and cultural development of Uzbekistan remain an enduring part of the nation's historical memory.

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