

THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL PERIODICAL PRESS IN NAVOI REGION: A HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract

This thesis provides a historical analysis of the formation and development of the local periodical press in Navoi Region. It examines the establishment of district and city newspapers, the activities of editorial offices, journalistic personnel, and the role of local publications in covering the social life of the region. The organizational and technological changes that took place in the local press during the years of independence are also analyzed.

Keywords: Navoi Region, local press, periodical publications, newspaper, editorial office, regional press, printing industry, information space.

Today, in the era of globalization, the importance of mass media is increasing more than ever. Attention to mass media has reached a new level during the years of independence. Supporting the activities of representatives of this sphere has been elevated to the level of state policy. This is because they are considered representatives of a profession that is of great importance in the development of society. As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, stated, "Press workers who always seek and strive for innovation, convey the essence of important changes taking place in society, priority ideas and initiatives to the people promptly and objectively, and boldly enter the hot spots of life are making a worthy contribution to the development of our country" [1].

Periodical press is one of the important information institutions reflecting the social, political, economic and cultural life of society. Its historical development makes it possible to study the processes taking place in society during a certain period, the formation of public opinion, and the mechanisms of information exchange. In particular, local periodical publications directly reflect the daily life of a particular region, local problems, socio-economic development, and cultural processes through their activities.

A distinctive feature of the local press is that, unlike publications at the national level, it is closer to the interests and needs of the population of a particular region. District and city newspapers regularly cover materials related to the activities of local authorities, the life of enterprises and organizations, agriculture, education, healthcare, culture, sports, mahallas, and the problems of the population. Therefore, studying the history of the local

press is of great scientific importance not only for studying the history of journalism but also for studying the socio-historical development of the region.

The formation and development of the local periodical press in Navoi Region is also closely connected with the historical development of the region. The history of some district and city newspapers in the territory of the region dates back to the 1930s, and some of them operated for several decades. During their activities, these publications not only met the information needs of the local population, but also contributed to the formation of the distinctive journalistic environment of the region.

The process of formation of the local periodical press in the territory of Navoi Region can be considered in connection with the general development of the press in the first decades of the 20th century. With the formation of the district and regional administrative system, the need to deliver information at the local level to the population also increased. As a result, newspapers were established in various areas, and they became one of the main means of information regularly providing information related to local life. The studies of T. Ernazarov [2], N. Abduazizova [3], B. Do'stqorayev [4], N. Abduazizova [5], and A. Boboxonov [6] on the press of this period are of significant importance.

The socio-political and economic issues occupied a central place in the activities of the first local newspapers. Agricultural production, labor processes, the activities of industrial enterprises, new construction projects, and changes in the fields of education and culture were regularly covered on the pages of newspapers. In this regard, the newspapers of that period can be considered not only as journalistic publications, but also as historical sources reflecting the social life of their time.

In the course of studying the history of local newspapers in Navoi Region, it can be observed that many editors changed during several decades of activity of some publications. Each of them made their contribution at a certain stage of the editorial office's activities. By studying the activities of editors in historical sequence, it becomes possible to identify the dynamics of the newspaper's development, as well as changes in its subject matter and style.

By studying the economic condition of the local press, it is possible to observe the process of adaptation of regional publications to market relations. While some editorial offices were forced to seek new sources of financing in order to maintain their activities, others benefited from the support of local government bodies and other organizations. Thus, during the period of independence, the development of the local press was not only a creative process, but also a process of organizational and economic adaptation.

Another important factor that influenced the development of local newspapers was technological modernization. Starting from the end of the 20th century, the introduction of computer technologies into editorial activities significantly changed the process of preparing newspapers. In the previous period, preparing texts, page layout, and producing

printing forms required relatively complex technical processes. The introduction of computers significantly simplified the possibilities of typesetting, editing, page layout, and working with graphic materials. As a result, the productivity of editorial offices increased, and some stages of the newspaper preparation process became faster.

Local newspapers are also of great importance in preserving the historical memory of the region. Issues of newspapers published in different years preserve information about facts and statistical data related to a particular period, the activities of local organizations, prominent figures, labor collectives, and cultural events. Therefore, such publications can serve as an important primary source for historians.

Today, new tasks are emerging for the local press in Navoi Region. Changes in the ways of consuming information and the widespread development of the Internet and social networks are encouraging print publications to adapt to new conditions. Nowadays, it is not enough for a local newspaper simply to prepare a printed issue. The use of timely information, electronic platforms, multimedia materials, and social networks is also becoming increasingly important.

As a result of the research, it was determined that the development of the local periodical press in Navoi Region can be conditionally divided into several historical stages.

The first stage – the period when local newspapers were established and the initial foundations of the regional information system were formed.

The second stage – the period when district and city newspapers were institutionally strengthened during the Soviet period.

The third stage – the period of organizational, economic, and content-related changes following independence.

The fourth stage – the period characterized by the transformation of the local press associated with computerization, the Internet, and digital technologies.

CONCLUSION

The formation and development of the local periodical press in Navoi Region is a multi-stage process closely associated with the socio-historical development of the region. The establishment of district and city newspapers led to the formation of the local information space, and for a long period of time, they served as one of the main sources of information for the population of the region.

The economic, organizational, and technological changes that took place in the activities of the local press during the years of independence renewed the working methods of editorial offices. While the introduction of computerization and digital technologies improved the newspaper preparation process, the development of the Internet and social networks expanded the information dissemination opportunities of local publications.

At the same time, local newspapers continue to maintain their historical function of covering the life of the region, highlighting local problems, and providing the public with

information. Their issues published in different years are also of great scientific importance as important sources for studying the social, economic, and cultural history of Navoi Region.

Therefore, it is advisable to systematically collect and digitize historical issues of local periodical publications, enter information related to the history of editorial offices into an electronic database, and continue conducting scientific research on the history of the regional press. This will serve not only to preserve the history of journalism in Navoi Region but also to preserve the general historical memory of the region.

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