



THE SOCIAL PROTECTION OF WORKERS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE UZBEK SSR AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

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Abstract. *This article highlights the main tasks of the system of social protection and social protection of workers in the activities of trade unions of the Uzbek SSR. The studied period was analytically studied for the allocation and implementation of funds allocated by the state budget and trade unions in 1945-1991 for social protection.*

Key words: *Uzbek SSR, trade unions, workers, pension, law, budget, finances, benefits, material and household assistance, health care.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqolada O'zbekiston SSR kasaba uyushmalari faoliyatida mehnatkashlarni ijtimoiy himoya qilinishi va ijtimoiy himoya tizimining asosiy vazifalari nimalardan iborat ekanligi yoritilgan. O'rganilayotgan davr 1945-1991 yillarda davlat byudjeti va kasaba uyushmalari tomonidan ajratilgan mablag'larning ijtimoiy himoya qilish sohalariga ajratilganligi va amalga oshirilganligi tahliliy o'rganilgan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *O'zbekiston SSR, kasaba uyushmalari, mehnatkashlar, pensiya, qonun, byudjet, moliya, nafaqa, moddiy-maishiy yordam, sog'liqni saqlash.*

Аннотация. *В данной статье освещены основные задачи системы социальной защиты и социальной защиты трудящихся в деятельности профсоюзов Узбекской ССР. Изучаемый период аналитически изучен на предмет выделения и реализации средств, выделенных государственным бюджетом и профсоюзами в 1945-1991 годах, на сферы социальной защиты.*

Ключевые слова: *Узбекская ССР, профсоюзы, трудящиеся, пенсия, закон, бюджет, финансы, пособия, материально-бытовая помощь, здравоохранение*

Introduction. In the Uzbek SSR, during the period from 1945 to 1991, the main tasks of trade unions in the system of social protection for workers included: post-war reconstruction, restoring production, mobilizing workers, increasing production efficiency, strengthening labor discipline, expanding cultural and educational activities, and organizing sports and health-improvement events.

Their role in social protection included expanding networks of financial assistance for workers, providing vouchers to rest homes and sanatoriums, monitoring workplace safety, protecting the rights of women and youth, ensuring free medical services, supporting kindergartens, participating in housing distribution, revising the social protection system, and increasing the role of trade unions in these areas. To implement these fields and tasks, the Communist Party and trade unions played an important role. Within the framework of laws related to the social protection of workers, trade unions carried out a number of





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measures funded by the state budget aimed at improving the living standards of the population and workers of the Uzbek SSR.

Between 1945 and 1991, the growing demand for social protection among the population of the Uzbek SSR revealed many problems in the use of the social protection system among working people. It also became evident that the population was often unaware of the laws and resolutions related to the social protection system. This situation later demonstrated the lack of transparency in assigning social assistance and revealed shortcomings in this field. After the Second World War, trade unions in the Uzbek SSR actively participated in restoring workers' activities and meeting their social protection needs.

Literature review. The sources of the social protection system in the Uzbek SSR during 1945–1991 have been studied very little as a separate topic. In works related to the Soviet period, such as “History of the Uzbek SSR” [1], as well as in studies produced during the years of independence—including M. Matniyozov’s “History of Khorezm” [2], Q. Rajabov’s “The Social and Political Activities of the Leadership of the Uzbek SSR (1945–1983)” [3], and the book “75 Years of Kindness and Compassion” [4] authored by A. Mannopov and S. Mirzaahmedova—the sources of the social protection system in the Uzbek SSR during 1945–1991 are only partially described.

In studying the topic of the role of trade unions in the system of social protection of workers in the Uzbek SSR during 1945–1991, including in substantiating this article, methods such as the comparative historical method and structural analysis [5] were used.

Results. For example, during the period from 1945 to 1991, in the Khorezm region of the Uzbek SSR, the social protection system included assistance for the population, especially the elderly, the visually impaired, war and labor disabled persons, mothers with many children, and single mothers. It also included vouchers to rest homes, boarding houses, and children’s homes. In the Uzbek SSR, the social protection system was financed from the state budget, as well as from trade unions and social insurance funds.

The revenue part of the state budget of the Soviet Union increased from 302.0 billion rubles in 1945 to 422.1 billion rubles by 1950. During these years, 524.5 billion rubles were allocated from the budget for socio-cultural activities. Of this amount:

- 258.9 billion rubles were allocated to public education;
- 94.4 billion rubles to healthcare.

These funds were directed to general education schools, higher education institutions, scientific research institutions, factory and plant training schools, libraries, clubs, theaters, as well as to education, culture, healthcare, pensions, and social benefits.

In the Uzbek SSR, trade unions played an important role not only in production processes but also in social life. They worked together with the state to improve workers’ recreation, health, culture, and living standards. Thus, after 1945, trade unions developed as an integral part of the social protection system.





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Another aspect of the state's social policy in the Uzbek SSR was the measurement and monitoring of the population's standard of living. In 1951–1952, statistical analyses were conducted on the population's level of consumption, food supply, and the quality of household services [6].

At the initiative of trade unions, funds were allocated several times to support people in need of social assistance. In addition, more than 680 million rubles were spent in 1958 from the state social insurance budget to meet the material, household, and cultural needs of workers and employees [7].

In subsequent years, including 1960, a total of 247,782,162 thousand rubles was allocated from the Union state budget for socio-cultural activities [8]. In comparison, during the same period in the Uzbek SSR, 5,330,525 thousand rubles from state budget revenues were allocated for socio-cultural activities [9].

By January 1991, according to the Soviet state budget distribution, 19,645,057 thousand rubles were allocated for socio-cultural activities. These funds were distributed as follows:

1. Public education – 5,431,759 thousand rubles;
2. Healthcare system – 3,204,427 thousand rubles;
3. Culture and arts – 459,196 thousand rubles;
4. Mass media – 1,656,875 thousand rubles;
5. Protection of motherhood and childhood, pensions, and social benefits – 8,892,800 thousand rubles [10].

In the 4th Five-Year Plan (1946–1950) and the 5th Five-Year Plan (1951–1955) developed by the Central Committee of the CPSU, investments allocated to social sectors—such as education, healthcare, culture, and social protection—were significantly smaller than those allocated to production sectors. Nevertheless, these investments were implemented on the basis of a systematic approach [11].

Conclusion. Between 1945 and 1991, a number of laws and programs related to social protection were implemented within the activities of trade unions in the Uzbek SSR in order to improve the social protection and living conditions of workers. However, despite these measures, economic shortages and the demand for social protection continued to persist in the social life of the population and workers of the Uzbek SSR.

As in other republics of the former Soviet Union, providing social protection for the population in the Uzbek SSR was one of the priority directions of state policy. The importance of this policy is confirmed by data on expenditures allocated for social protection in the Uzbek SSR. Nevertheless, it was also revealed that there were shortcomings in sectors related to social protection and social welfare during this period.

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