

Educational System in the Southern Regions of Uzbekistan during the Second World War

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the problems in the education system during the Second World War, the lack of educational materials, the orientation of school buildings for military needs, the involvement of schoolchildren in field work adversely affect the quality of education.

Introduction

World War II caused great problems to the people of the whole world. During these years, all areas were directed towards the interests of the war. In such a complex situation, the education system, as well as the public education system, began to undergo severe tests during its activity. Most of the teachers working in these fields were mobilized to the front. This situation complicated the work of educational institutions.

In the 1940-1941 academic year, 4795 schools operated in the territory of Uzbekistan. This year, the number of schools in Surkhandarya region was 303[1:317]. Only 9 of them were secondary schools. During this period, 192,600 students studied in 470 schools in Kashkadarya region [2:217]. Part-time secondary schools increased from 12 to 23, and one secondary school with 68 students was opened this year [3:132]. One school in Karshi, the regional center, had 19 classes, and the number of students in them was 374. But even before the start of the war, there was a problem of lack of classrooms in schools. Due to the war, the construction of new buildings for schools was stopped. The buildings of the schools were divided into dormitories, hospitals and orphanages for workers of military enterprises transferred to the republic. Secondly, most of the school buildings were under repair, and some were completely unusable.

As a result of the investigation conducted by the commission of the Central Committee of the UzSSR and the Central Committee of the UzCP, it was found that 70 school buildings in the republic were taken over by various institutions and organizations. In the academic year 1941-1942, it was found that 50 school buildings were being used for other purposes [4:150]. In particular, more than 50% of school buildings in Kashkadarya region were in a state of neglect, and 24 of them were in a completely unusable condition. For example, the school building in the

center of Yakkabog district was being used as a warehouse, and the Pushkin school building in Shahrisabz was being used as a hospital. Three rooms of school No. 1 in Beshkent district were released to evacuees [5:131]. It was found that the district military commissariat is operating in the school building in Sariosia region. Due to the lack of educational buildings, classes were organized in 3 shifts, sometimes in 4 shifts. Also, break times between classes were shortened, music, drawing, and painting classes were stopped. Measures to prevent this situation were immediately developed by the government of the republic. Initially, measures were taken to return the school buildings given for other purposes to the educational system in the territory of the republic. 50 school buildings and 3 internal buildings, which are used for various purposes in the territory of the republic, were vacated, 9 buildings used for other purposes were replaced. By July 1, 1942, 11 more school buildings and 6 school-related buildings were quickly evacuated [6:150].

In the development of each field, its material support is of great importance. In particular, the education system is one of the areas that require the allocation of large funds from the state budget. With the beginning of the war, the amount of funds allocated from the budget for the education sector was reduced. In Uzbekistan, 561,317 rubles were allocated from the state budget in 1940 and 461,588 rubles in 1942 [7:92]. In Kashkadarya region, in 1942, 22,916 thousand rubles or 46 percent of the total budget was allocated for the needs of public education [8:82]. In the academic year 1941-1942, 1469.5 thousand soums were allocated for the schools of Karshi city. This year, 23,000 soums were allocated for the capital repair of schools located in Karshi city, and 40,000 soums were allocated and spent for the capital repair of Shahrisabz district schools. As a result of the Second World War, the amount of funds allocated to the education system was slightly reduced. It is self-evident that the main part of the funds was allocated for war expenses. But even before the start of the war, there were big problems in the school education system. For example, urban schools did not have the opportunity to cover all students of school age, and in rural areas, the schools themselves were not sufficient. For this reason, construction and repair works were carried out with the help of teachers and the support of the population to improve the functioning of schools. In particular, work was organized in this process in the cities and districts of Kashkadarya region. With the help of teachers and students of Kitab District, local residents, 43 school buildings were repaired. In these schools, repair works were carried out to the extent possible for children to study. A new school building was built with the help of the members of the "Bolshevik" farm in the Chugurtma village council of Guzor district. A similar new school building was built and put into operation in the peasant farm named "Lenin" in Pachkamar village council. Additional classrooms were built in schools that did not have enough classrooms. Additional classrooms were built and put into use in many schools in Shahrisabz, Yakkabog, Beshkent and other districts. Additional rooms for the Russian classes established as a result of the evacuation of children in the city of Karshi were built and put into operation.

By 1943, we can see an increase in the amount of funds allocated to the education system. For example, in 1943, 472,224 rubles were spent on public education in the republic, and in 1944, 670,147 rubles [9:73]. In 1945, 704,909 rubles were allocated. In Kashkadarya region, in 1942, 22916 thousand rubles or 46% of the total budget was allocated for the needs of public education, in 1943 - 26679 thousand rubles, in 1944 - 47382 thousand rubles, by 1945, 52321 thousand rubles or 60.1% of the funds were allocated. 1,058,600 soums were allocated in the 1942-1943 academic year and 1,933,300 soums in the 1943-1944 academic year for the schools of the opposite city. The main part of allocated funds was spent on teacher training for schools. In this period, there were no educational institutions training teachers with higher education in the southern regions of Uzbekistan.

During the Second World War, one of the biggest problems in the education system was the issue of teaching staff. Because most of the men, who make up 76-80 percent of the teachers

working in the educational system, went to the active army and production. This situation made the situation in schools much worse. Because even before the war, republican schools lacked 6,700 teachers, including more than 500 teachers in Kashkadarya region.

In the 1940-1941 academic year, the number of teachers in the republic was 34,000, of which 1,407 worked in Surkhandarya region [10:13]. But as mentioned above, due to the fact that most of the teachers were mobilized for the war, there was a shortage of personnel. In order to fill the need for personnel, the period of study in educational institutions of pedagogy was shortened from three years to two years. Pedagogical courses were organized in order to eliminate the need for teaching personnel. Such courses are mainly designed for three and six months and are organized at the discretion of educational institutions. In December 1942, 2- and 4-month teacher training courses were opened in Denov district. A total of 105 people were involved in it [11:113]. On the other hand, since this year, many people from war-torn regions have been relocated to Uzbekistan, including Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya regions. Among them were teachers. It was their activity in schools that led to the improvement of the Russian language.

Another major problem during the war years was the dropout of children from schools. Attendance and learning rates in schools have plummeted. For example, in November 1943, the Kashkadarya regional party committee discussed the activities of schools. The activity of schools in the districts of Koson, Yakkabog, Beshkent is studied, and it is noted that the enrollment of children in schools has improved a little, and the situation in Kitab, Shahrisabz, Miraki, Dehkanabad districts is unsatisfactory in this regard. In recent years, school enrollment has improved slightly. For example, attendance at schools in the city of Shahrisabz, Kashkadarya region, in the 1943/44 academic year increased by 16% compared to the 1942/43 academic year, and the enrollment of school-aged children was 96%.

In Surkhandarya region too, the derailment of school education has led to an increase in the number of neglected children and a sharp increase in crime among adults. In 1943, 106 children were caught in the act of crime by Surkhandarya police officers. 15 of them were neglected children, 40 were studying, and 48 were not attending school.

In the 1944-1945 academic year, in order to prevent this situation, it was decided to hold parents' meetings in schools, organize extracurricular clubs and attach highly qualified teachers to them, and involve parents in this work.

So, the Second World War put the education system in a difficult situation. The lack of educational materials, the confiscation of school buildings for military purposes, and the involvement of students in field work had a negative impact on the quality of education. Educational institutions were able to fulfill their tasks, albeit with difficulties.

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