



Occupation Of Central Asia By The Soviet Government

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Abstract: The occupation of Central Asia by the Soviet government was a significant event in the region's history, marked by a complex and often tumultuous period of Soviet dominance that spanned several decades. From the early 20th century to the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Central Asia, comprising present-day Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, was subject to Soviet rule, which had far-reaching consequences for the region's politics, economy, culture, and people.

Keywords: Soviet empire, Central Asia, geographical sites, significant factors, cultures, regions

Introduction: The occupation of Central Asia by the Soviet Government signifies a significant turning point in the region's history. To fully understand the impact of this occupation, it is essential to first delve into the geographical and historical background of Central Asia. Geographically, Central Asia is characterized by its vast expanse of land, spanning from the Caspian Sea in the west to the borders of China in the east. This region is home to a diverse range of landscapes, from the deserts of Turkmenistan to the mountains of Kyrgyzstan, shaping the way of life for its inhabitants. Historically, Central Asia has been shaped by a complex tapestry of cultures, from the nomadic tribes of the steppes to the ancient civilizations along the Silk Road. These factors have contributed to the unique identity of Central Asia and have influenced its interactions with external powers throughout history. Understanding the geographical and historical context of Central Asia is crucial for comprehending the dynamics at play during the Soviet occupation, providing a foundation for the exploration of its lasting impact on the region.

Geographical and Historical Background

The historical background of Central Asia is marked by periods of various empires' dominance, including the Persian, Mongol, and Russian Empires. The region witnessed the spread of Islam, which has deeply influenced its culture and society. In the 19th century, the Russian Empire expanded into Central Asia, leading to the incorporation of the region and its subsequent occupation by the Soviet government in the early 20th century. This occupation brought significant changes to the region's political, economic, and social landscape, as well as its cultural and ethnic composition. Understanding the geographical and historical background of Central Asia is crucial to comprehending the impact of the Soviet occupation and its lasting effects on the region.

Central Asia, situated between Europe and Asia, consists of five republics: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The region serves as a historic and cultural crossroads, with a rich history of various empires and civilizations, including the Silk Road trade route. Geographically, it is characterized by vast steppes, deserts, and high mountain ranges, including the Pamir and Tien Shan. This diverse landscape has shaped the region's economic activities, from nomadic herding to agriculture and natural resource extraction.

The Soviet occupation of Central Asia was preceded by the Russian Empire's expansion into the region in the 19th century. Following the Russian Revolution of 1917, the Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, seized power and established the Soviet Union. In the aftermath, the



Soviet government turned its attention to Central Asia, which was then a predominantly Muslim and nomadic region. The Soviets were motivated by a desire to expand their territory, exploit the region's natural resources, and spread communist ideology. The Soviet occupation of Central Asia was marked by a brutal suppression of local resistance and the imposition of Soviet-style communism. In 1918, the Red Army, led by Mikhail Frunze, launched a military campaign to conquer Turkestan, a region that encompassed present-day Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The Soviet government abolished the traditional system of tribal and Islamic governance, replacing it with a Soviet-style administration. Local leaders, who had previously enjoyed a degree of autonomy, were either exiled or executed, and their lands were nationalized.

The Soviet government implemented a series of radical reforms aimed at modernizing Central Asia's economy and society. The collectivization of agriculture, the promotion of industrialization, and the development of infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and canals, were key components of the Soviet strategy. However, these reforms often came at a great cost, as local peasants were forced to abandon their traditional ways of life and adapt to Soviet-style collective farming. The region's natural resources, including oil, natural gas, and minerals, were exploited to fuel Soviet economic growth, with little benefit accruing to the local population. The Soviet occupation also had a profound impact on Central Asia's culture and people. The Soviet government actively promoted atheism, suppressing Islamic practices and replacing them with communist ideology. Local languages and customs were suppressed, and Russian was imposed as the lingua franca. The Soviet government also sought to eradicate the traditional nomadic lifestyle, forcing many families to settle in urban areas. This led to significant social and cultural upheaval, as people struggled to adapt to new ways of life.

There are various justifications for why the Russians needed to move toward the south into Focal Asia. In the first place, there was a monetary explanation, or at least, to make markets for Russian products. This rationale turned out to be significantly more intense in 1860s because of the U.S. Nationwide conflict, when the south was confined and cotton was hard to find. Cotton was an excellent rationale in starting extension, yet in addition to uniting the domain of the Russian political and monetary framework as quickly as could really be expected.

The Russians likewise saw the venture into the east and the south as their humanizing mission, their variant of "Inevitable success," to bring the savages of the Focal Asian individuals taken care of.

There is additionally an issue of subjugation. Certain Khanates had consistently assaulted in the Russian region around the Caspian Ocean. They brought back Russians and sold them as slaves. This was the public rationale to legitimize the development in Focal Asia. This is the sort of thing that the English had gotten on to and quite campaigned for the arrival of the Russians.

The Russian organization of Turkestan at the time was quite like the procedures utilized by the European powers. One similitude is the military was a responsible for the area and politically coordinated them. In any case, this made strain between experts in Moscow and provincial leaders who generally needed military arrangements and extension. It is muddled how much pressure there was in India between the two. The over-fanatical forceful military (by nearby administrators) was a magnificent reason for government officials in St. Petersburg to apologize to the world when they vanquished new region. It should be recalled that correspondence in that period was poor. Military lead representatives could do all they needed to do in their networks.

In the English side of the situation, the English were divided between the Birds of prey who inclined toward forward procedures in the district as a mean to seizing any Russian moves;



and there was cautious positionality who accepted these systems could cause more damage. The fundamental worry here is the Russian had acquired a traction in Focal Asia, and subsequently they had acquired a traction into Afghanistan, the basic support state. Urban areas like Herat, Kandahar, and Kabul were viewed as key urban communities. In the two Afghan Conflicts (1840s and 1870s), the English endeavored to oust the then Afghan system and introducing a consistent manikin that would align with them as opposed to the Russians. Nonetheless, the English were constrained out. Persia or Iran was the second part in the Great Game. Persia was likewise filled in as a connection to Afghanistan and Pakistan. The English were concerned the Russians would do manages the shah. The Russians likewise had worries over the English more than a couple of occurrences; one of which was the Persian endeavor into Afghanistan. This was the introduction to the primary Afghan Conflict.

The Great Game came into an emotional stop in the mid twentieth 100 years because of outside occasions, one of which is the Russo-Japanese Conflict in 1904-5. The Japanese annihilated the Russian naval force, yet additionally harmed the Russian pride and esteem in the global local area. Additionally, with the flare-up of WWI, the Russians and English were battling as partners against the Germans, etc. With the new geo-political arrangement, the enmity and the competition made by the Incomparable Game was presently not useful for one or the other side. They changed their concentration from Focal Asia to Europe.

Soviet Rule

The Soviet rule made them strike likenesses and contrasts to the Russian supreme rule, and furthermore to European provincial power. During the 1930s, there were restrictions to Soviet rule, came in the types of Muslim developments, container Turkic developments, and Jadid developments. The last were endeavors to combine Islam with communism to make a public kind of socialist coalition in these districts. The issue was that these developments were not extremely coordinated and they were battled with regards to Russian nationwide conflicts.

The guide of Turkestan essentially looks like the lines of the previous Russian domain. During the 1920s and 30s, five Soviet republics were framed. They were same individuals from the Soviet Association: Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Along these managerial lines, we have free states today.

There are three highlights in the procedures of expansionism in the Soviet domain:

Like other pilgrim powers, or majestic Russia previously, the Soviets truly took Focal Asia and transformed it into a site for extraction of unrefined components, for instance cotton in Uzbekistan, oil from Azerbaijan and mining in northern Kazakhstan. Cotton creation in Uzbekistan has critical ecological results, like the contracting shoreline of the Ural Ocean. What's more, other sick impacts like from pesticides that added to the disturbing pace of malignant growth in the locale. In northern Kazakhstan, there were atomic test locales.

Methodology of separation and overcome introduced by the Soviets in the district. The Soviets didn't attempt to compartmentalize individual ethnic gatherings like other pilgrim powers. All things being equal, they did the inverse by separating nationality and making enormous minorities with a managerial unit. The Soviet worry during the 1920s and 1930s was that there may be a brought together development (dish Islamic developments or container Turkic developments) that would lead the different individuals to go against contrary to Soviet rule. So, they purposely drew up these enormous republics determined to have a predominant ethnic gathering, however not excessively prevailing, to play them off one against one another.

The last closeness is the philosophy of a predominant civilization. It was actually the case that the Soviets needed to Sovietized the district, yet they didn't actually oversee eventually. Then again, the Soviet authority didn't actually mind as long as these Focal Asian areas didn't emerge from line.



Despite the Soviet government's efforts to suppress local identities, the people of Central Asia continued to cherish their cultural heritage. In the 1920s and 1930s, a nationalist movement emerged, which sought to promote local languages, customs, and traditions. However, this movement was brutally suppressed by the Soviet authorities, who viewed it as a threat to communist ideology. Many local intellectuals and artists were persecuted, imprisoned, or executed for their attempts to promote national identity. The Soviet occupation of Central Asia was also marked by significant human rights abuses. The Soviet government used forced labor, concentration camps, and mass deportations to quell dissent and maintain control. During World War II, the Soviet government forcibly deported hundreds of thousands of people from Central Asia to Siberia and other parts of the Soviet Union, leading to significant human suffering and loss of life.

In the latter half of the 20th century, the Soviet government's grip on Central Asia began to loosen. As the Soviet Union's economy stagnated, the region became increasingly restive. In the 1980s, Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika introduced a degree of liberalization, which emboldened local nationalists and democrats. The Soviet government's control over Central Asia began to unravel, and the region eventually gained independence in 1991, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, the occupation of Central Asia by the Soviet government was a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that had far-reaching consequences for the region's politics, economy, culture, and people. While the Soviet government's efforts to modernize Central Asia's economy and society were significant, they were often marked by brutality, suppression, and exploitation. The legacy of Soviet rule continues to shape the region's development, and the people of Central Asia continue to grapple with the challenges of building independent nations and forging a new cultural identity.

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