



HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION IN KHOREZM PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

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ANNOTATION

In this article, you can come across information about the reforms carried out for the development of communication branch during the years of Khorezm National Soviet Republic organized on the place of Khiva khanate after it had been abolished in 1920, affairs carried out for strengthening the relations with neighbouring states. Composing a union contract in 1920 between RSFSR and KhNSR and adopting the resolution directing 7 million rubles to build telegraph line from Chardjuy to Khiva by Economic Council of Central Asia (SredazEKOSO) raised relations with neighbouring republics to a new stage.

On December 16, 1922, Presidium of Central Executive Committee in Khorezm National Soviet Republic adopted a resolution on “Organizing aerodrome in Khiva city” and at the result of it there appeared an opportunity to carry out postal service faster to the farther territories from the centre of the republic. And it was the reason for the beginning of carrying postal messages and luggage with the help of planes.

At the same time, putting internal and external telephone lines with regions far from the centre of the republic in order together with organizing postal service between them was the evidence of the beginning of rapid affairs for the development of the branch at the result of the affairs for increasing telephone connections.

Contribution of local connectors was also of great importance in the development of the branch. It is necessary to emphasize historical processes which caused the abolishment of Khorezm government and communication board at the result of rapid changes in the structure of Republic governors and holding national territorial bordering in Central Asia.

KEY WORDS: *Morse, Klofer, telegraph, SredazEKOSO, icons, flight mail, faeton, radiotelephone.*

DISCUSSION

The Khiva khanate, which existed in Central Asia for more than 400 years, was abolished by the Soviet Union in 1920 and there were formed Khorezm National Soviet Republic was formed. The new republic, in the first place, carried out a number of reforms aimed at developing internal and external relations of the country. One of the most important of these is that there were organized communication departments in the regions of the republic.

There was also reorganized carrying mail through the Amu Darya between Charjuy and New Urganch. Measures were also taken to put a postman on horse on sale for internal needs. In the same year, telephone communication between Khiva and Petro-Aleksandrovsk (Turtkul) was restored. Also in Khiva and Urganch new station for 60 numbers were constructed and post offices were opened in several

districts. There were also “Morse” and “Klofer” telegraph devices in those offices (they are being kept in Khiva Contact Museum).

Post office in Urganch began to be named as post-telegraph office. Charjuy – Khiva telegraph communication was launched. Khorezm improved relations with Turkistan ASSR and Bukhara. On August 16, 1920, the youth in Khorezm, 100 people came to the square in front of the post office in Khiva and spent six hours in the groundwork in order to hold a day of voluntary unpaid work for the first time¹.

On July 1, 1921, a representative office of the Republic of Khorezm was established in Tashkent. On December 4, 2007, the representative office was

¹ Oasis’ Chronicle. – Urganch: Khorezm, 2010. – P. 36.

transformed into a consul general. The wide-ranging cooperation between the RSFSR and Khorezm National Soviet Republic raised the relations between Khorezm and the Amu-Darya branch (from December 1920 Amu Darya Region) to new stages².

As we were getting introduced with the data of the museum “History of Communication” in Khiva, we came across the documents about the conditions of using message ways on the agreement between RSFSR and KhNSR on 13 September 1920 and establishing telegraph and other communication facilities. On April 24, 1921, the Central Asian Economic Council (SredazEKOSO) made a decision to direct 7 million rubles to build a telegraph line from Charjuy to Khiva. On October 10, 1922 the Central Asian regional communication administration was established on the basis of the post telegraph public office of Turkestan Republic. Samarkand, Tashkent, Kokand, Khiva, Navoi and Bukhara were assigned to it.

On December 16, 1922 the Presidium of the Ministry of Transport of KhNSR made a decision “On Creating an Airfield in Khiva”. There was said in the decision: “Let the airplanes be prepared in front of the door of Khonka. Let the lands be allocated to the farmers who have garden plots there from the state fund around Khiva, which does not belong to the territory of landing. Instead of 1 tanab (ancient measuring unit of yards) garden plot of a farmer, it is planned to allocate 1.5 comfortable lands with grafts and 2 tanab areas without planting seedlings. If a land is situated lower, he / she should be allocated 3 tanabs of land. There should be organized a commission containing 3 persons in order to observe the marked lands It should include one representative from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Land affairs and Supreme Audit Commission”.

From 1923, the local “flight” postal service was provided for communication between citizens in Khorezm Republic and in order to send messages in the directions through Darghanota, Khazorasp, Khiva, Dashoguz, Khodjeli, Kungrad. At that time, contracts were signed between the post telegraph department and private executors who should be busy with sending mails³.

Khorezm’s communications with neighboring countries were post and telegraph, which was incorporated into the postal and telegraphic office of the Turkestan ASSR in accordance with the decision of the Central Asian Economic Council (CAEC). The radiotelegraph in the republic also included a military organization of 25,000 rubles and a recent charter fund. Except for the airport, EKOSO was expected to

spend about 15,000 rubles. Before the revolution, it was planned to open a postal telegraph office in Urganch and to restore the Khiva-Turtkul-Charjuy postal routes. At that time, the republican center had a telephone connection between Khiva and New Urganch, Dashoguz, Khanka, Khazorasp, Darghanota and Turtkul. In Khiva there were 27 telephone sets and it was planned to increase their number.

In October-November 1923, a telephone communication was established between Khiva and Khodjeli, Old Urganch, Porsu, Ilonli. In addition, the Khiva City Telephone Station building was renovated. Hiring postmen with horses was organized as auction in order to serve internal postal needs. From 1923, mails and cargoes on the route Darghanota, Khazorasp, Khiva, Dashoguz, Khodjeli, Kungrad began to be shipped by airplanes.

In Khorezm Republic, objects of communication with other states were under the control of post and telegraph. Also, the Military Oversight Board had an independent radio telegraph. At the same time, the Central Asian Air Fleet was expected to be set up and Khorezm Republic had contributed gold equal to 25,000 sums. Radio and air fleet was not included in the economic plan of Khorezm because of its submission to SredazEKOSO. Only the construction of an airport for 15 thousand sums was an exception. On November 19, 1923 the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Khorezm transformed People’s Communication Department into an independent organization.

Post and telegraph office was opened in New Urganch, the largest commercial and industrial center and there were established internal telephone lines between Khiva and Dashoguz, Darghanota, Khodjeli, Old Urganch, Porsu, Kukcha, Ilonli, Khazorasp and Turtkul. Local mail was established on horse within regions (faeton, diligence). In January 1924 when Djunaidhon attacked Khiva, an antenna wire between the Juma Mosque and the Said Islamkhodja minaret was mounted and the radio was connected to the rulers in Tashkent and Moscow. In the same year, air communication with the cities of Samarkand was also established. The number of telephone systems in Khorezm reached 1700.

First Sergeev, Boyarov and their student Sobir Otajanov were the first local workers of communication. Their work was very hard. Valiulla Musin was one of those workers of communication. Urozmat Zargarov’s hard work and his faithfulness to his favorite profession is worth value who was busy repairing accumulators – hearts of communication. He went on the road from Mangit to Urganch in four days, sometimes walked and sometimes carried messages on carts.

In 1924, telephone stations in Khiva and Urganch were upgraded to 60 numbers. In connection with the installation of “Morse” and “Klofer” devices in Kushkupir, Shavat, Gurlan and Yangibazar post

² Official website of Khorezm region government – www.xorazmiy.uz

³ The data of the Khiva Museum of Communication History. 2018.

offices, the post offices in Urganch and Khiva began to be called "Post and Telegraph Office"⁴.

Mailing workers made a huge contribution to the expansion of communication of the Khorezm oasis population with far areas. In the summer of 1924, Tashkent – Avliyoota (Taroz), Pishpak (Bishkek) – Alma-Ata, New Bukhara (Kogon) – Darghonota, Turtkul Post Airways were launched. Their total length contained 600 km.

From March 1921 until the end of 1924, the heads of the Khorezm Republic were replaced 14 times. Nevertheless, the republic's leaders (Q. Odinaev, M. Abdusalomov, Yakubov, etc.) as far as possible, tried to prevent Khorezm from not joining the national territorial border in Central Asia⁵. According to the decision of the Plenum of the MSC of the Khorezm SSR on November 22, 1924, the republic agreed to join the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic. The All-Khorezm Congress V Meetings approved the national-state restriction on November 29, 1924. Based on the resolution, the Uzbeks, Turkmens and Karakalpaks in Khorezm separated from the Khorezmian Republic and were given the right to unite with the relevant national republics and autonomous regions⁶. Thus, the Khorezm government and the Communications Administration stopped their activities⁷.

Looking at the history of the formation and development of communication services in the Khorezm National Soviet Republic (1920-1924), it is possible to make the following conclusions.

First, in Khorezm, when the khanate system was overthrown and democratic activities began, some positive changes took place in the oasis' communication system.

Secondly, in order to accelerate the development of internal communication in the country, significant efforts were made to increase the numbers in the existing telephone stations in large cities in increasing telephone exchanges and telephone apparatus.

Thirdly, in 1923, the mails and cargoes were sent to internal destinations far from the center of the Republic and to neighboring countries by airplanes. The postal officers made a huge contribution to the

expansion of the Khorezm oasis population's relations with neighboring territories.

Fourthly, frequent changes in the leadership of the Republic left its negative impact on the development of the industry.

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⁴ Muhammadiev O. Fast Communication – T.Science, 2000. – P. 11, 13.

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