



**AUTONOMY OF TURKEY IN HISTORICAL SOURCES: MEMBERS OF THE
GOVERNMENT AND THEIR FATE**

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Abstract. This article provides information about the lives and activities of the autonomists and progressives who fought for the autonomy of the peoples of Turkestan, in particular, the tragic fate of the ministers of this government and members of the Turkestan National Assembly, which ended in their tragic deaths. It also analyzes the formation of the Tashkent Committee, which, along with the consolidation of national organizations, unified the national liberation movement into a single system and centralized it organizationally.

Key words: Owner, clerics, judges, joint-stock companies, Turkestan general-governorship, "alien breed", "land population", Mustafa Cho'kai, Abdurahmonbek O'razaev, Shohislam Shokhiahmedov, Mahdi Chanishev, Solomon Gersfeld, Obidjon Mahmudov, Rafael Potelyakhov.



Introduction

On February 22, 2023, it will be exactly 105 years since the Bolsheviks overthrew the government of the Turkestan Autonomy (November 27, 1917 - February 27, 1918)! On February 22, 1918 (February 9, old), in the building of the Russo-Asian Bank in Kokand, a "peace treaty" prepared by the Bolsheviks was signed. It should be noted that over the past 100 years, the lives and activities of the autonomists and progressives who fought for the autonomy (not for independence!) of the peoples of Turkestan, in particular, the tragic fate of the ministers of this government and members of the Turkestan National Assembly, which ended in tragic death, have not been sufficiently studied. We hope that this study will, in a certain sense, fill this gap.

Congresses of All-Turkestan Muslims: On the initiative of the "Shuroi Islamiya" organization, the First Congress of All-Turkestan Muslims was convened in Tashkent on April 16-22, 1917. The issue of the state status of the Turkestan region was the main issue on the congress agenda. At the congress, the Central Council of Muslims of the Turkestan region (Kraymussovet in archival documents) - the National Center was established. Mustafa Chokai was elected chairman, Islam Sultan Shoakhmedov was elected deputy chairman, and Ahmad Zaki Validi and Ubaidulla Khojaev were elected secretaries. The Central Council included Mahmudkhodja Behbudi, Toshpulatbek Norbutabekov, Nasirkhon Tura, Muhammadjon Tinishboev and other progressives. The Tashkent Committee was also established under the leadership of Munavvar Qori and Sadriddinkhan Afandi. This situation, along with the consolidation of national organizations, would have centralized the national liberation movement into a single system and organizationally.

At the Congress of Muslims of Turkestan and Kazakhstan held in Tashkent on September 17-20, 1917, the formation of a political party called "Union of Muslims" was initiated, based on the unification of the "Islamic Council" and "Ulama Council", "Turan" and other political organizations.

Literature review

The issue of the form of governance of Turkestan was the focus of the Extraordinary Fourth Congress of Muslims of All Turkestan, held in the city of Kokand on November 26–28, 1917 (December 9–11, according to the new calculation). At the congress, everyone supported the idea of declaring autonomy and independence. On December 26–30, 1917 (January 8–12, according to the new calculation, 1918), representatives of the First Extraordinary Congress of Land Workers, Soldiers and Peasants' Deputies, held in the city of Kokand, adopted a resolution supporting the government



of the Turkestan Autonomy, as well as expressing no confidence in the Council of People's Commissars of the Turkestan region, which was an indication of the rather high political consciousness of the participants. It was at this conference that the government of the Turkestan Autonomy was established. The congress declared the Turkestan region territorially autonomous within the Russian Federal Republic. The congress considered that power should remain in the hands of the Turkestan Provisional Council and the Turkestan National Assembly (Millat Majlisi) until the Constituent Assembly was convened.

32 people were elected to the Milli Majlis: Ubaidulla Khojaev (Ubaidulla Khoja Asadullah Khojaev), Mustafa Chukaev (Mustafo Chukai), Toshpulatbek Norbutabekov, Sadriddinkhon Sharifkhozhaev, Kungirkhozha Khozhinov, Ismatulla Ubaidullin, Saidnosir Mirjalilov, Sherali (Serali) Lapin, Said Ja'farboy Saidov, Islam Sultan Shoakhmedov, Abdurakhmonbek Urazaev, Hidoyatbek Yurali Agayev, Nosirkhon Tura (son of Nosirkhontura Kamolkhontura), Mirodil Mirzaakhmedov, Toshkhozha Ashurkhozhaev, Abdulkadir Kushbegiyev, Obidjon Mahmudov, Jamshidboy Qorabekov, Solomon Abramovich Herzfeld, Abdusamad Abdusalimov, Ubaidulla Derbisalin, Musa Akchurin, Mustafa Mansurov, Mahmudkhozha Behbudi, Ibrohim Dalshin, Muhammadjon Tinishboev, Khalil Shirinsky, Tolibjon Musabaev, Kamol Rakhmonberdiev (Kamol qazi), Olimkhontura Shokirkhonturaev, Sobirjon Yusupov, Odiljon Umarov and others. However, after *Sherali Lapin, who was nominated for the post of Chairman of the Milli Majlis*, rejected this proposal, no other person was elected to this position at the congress.

As the newspaper "Ulug Turkestan" reported with deep sorrow, "February 20 (7) was the most terrible day in the history of Khokand (Kokand). The Armenians were especially active in this..." The article in the newspaper ends with the terrible phrase "Khokand is now a city of the dead."

Research Methodology

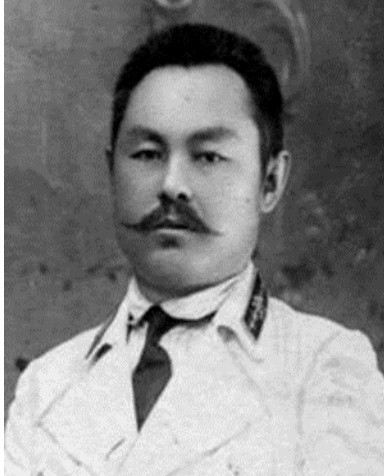
Finally, on February 22, 1918, a "peace treaty" prepared by the Bolsheviks was signed in the building of the Russo - Asian Bank in the city of Kokand. The second article of this treaty stated that "the population recognizes the authority of the Council of People's Commissars of the region and all local Soviet organizations." Yes, where would the surviving part of the Kokand people, who had been shot, killed, robbed, and humiliated, go if they did not recognize Soviet authority?

On April 30, 1918, at the 5th Congress of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies of Turkestan, the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (in some sources, the Turkestan



Soviet Republic) was declared as part of the RSFSR. The Soviet government supposedly "gifted" the local peoples living in Turkestan with "national statehood" and "autonomy" under Soviet autonomy.

Who were the ministers of the autonomous government? Here we will dwell on the life and activities of the members of the government of the Turkestan Autonomous Region and their future fate:

	<p>Muhammadjon Tinishboev (Mukhamedjan Tinishpaev. 1879–1939) is a state and public figure, historian and scientist. Seventy region, Lepsinsk district , Sadir May 12 , 1879 in Volost was born Nationality Kazakh . He was born in 1889–1900. Faithful men Gymnasium , St. Petersburg Imperial in 1900-1906 Institute named after Alexander I iron road transport engineers at the institute studied .</p>
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In 1907, he was elected a deputy of the Russian State Duma of the 2nd convocation. In April 1917, he was a member of the Turkestan Committee of the Provisional Government formed in Russia, served as Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs of the Turkestan Autonomy (November-December 1917), Minister of Internal Affairs in the Alash Horde government (December 1917 - March 1920), and later as Deputy Prime Minister. He later held various positions in the Turkestan ASSR and the Kazakh ASSR. He wrote works on the history and ethnography of the Turkic peoples, some of which were published in Russian in Tashkent at that time.

M. Tynishbaev was first arrested by the Soviet authorities on August 3, 1930 and exiled to the Central Black Soil Region of the RSFSR (now Voronezh Oblast) for five years (1930–1935) . Later, he was arrested again by the NKVD in Tashkent on November 21, 1937, and died in a Tashkent prison hospital on July 3, 1939 at the age of 60. M. Tynishbaev's works were published in Almaty after 1991. After the collapse of the USSR, monuments were erected in his memory in Kazakhstan. A special commemorative medal named after Muhammadjon Tynishbaev was established in Kazakhstan.



Mustafa Cho'kai (1890–1941) is a well-known state and public figure and a consistent fighter for the independence of Turkestan peoples.

He was born on December 25, 1890 (January 7, 1891, according to the new reckoning) in the village of Avliyotarangil, Zapek volost, Perovsk district, Syrdarya region. His father, Chokaibei Turgai, was the head of a volost (volost), a nobleman of the Kipchak tribe of Kazakhs, and his mother's ancestors went to the Khans of Khiva. Mustafa Chokai considered himself a Kipchak in his biography.

Mustafa Chokai received his primary education in Akmachyt, then studied at the men's gymnasium in Tashkent (1902 - 1910). He graduated from the law faculty of St. Petersburg University (1914). Mustafa Chokai worked as a secretary and translator in the Muslim faction of the Fourth State Duma of Russia in 1916-1917 .

In April 1917, Mustafa Chokai returned from Petrograd to Tashkent and was at the center of political processes in Turkestan. From the spring of 1917, he began publishing the newspapers “Birlik Tugi” and “ Svobodny Turkestan ”. At the 1st Congress of All-Turkestan Muslims held in Tashkent on April 16-23 of that year, the Central Council of Muslims of the Turkestan region (Kraymussovet) was established under the chairmanship of Mustafa Chokai, that is, the National Center. He participated in the 1st All-Kyrgyz (All-Kazakh) Congress held in Orenburg on July 21-28 . Member of the Turkestan Committee of the Provisional Government (since August 1917). After the Bolsheviks forcibly seized power in Tashkent, the National Center headed by Mustafa Chokai moved to Kokand in early November.

From December 12, 1917, Mustafa Chokai became the Prime Minister of the Turkestan Autonomous Government. At the same time, Mustafa Chokai was also the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Alash Horde Government, which was formed at the First Congress of All-Kyrgyz (All-Kazakh) Representatives, which took place in Orenburg on December 5–13 (December 18–26, according to the new calculation).



Mustafa Chokai, who was brought up with Turkic ideas from his youth, was a supporter of the creation of a single and indivisible Turkestan. He told the members of the "Alash" party, who were Kazakhs, that there was no need to create a separate autonomous government, but that they could enter the Turkestan Autonomy government as a special region. In the future, it would be possible to create an independent Turkestan state (not Uzbekistan or Kazakhstan!) by including the territories of the Bukhara Emirate and the Khiva Khanate in this autonomy. However, such geopolitical views of national leaders such as Mustafa Chokai, Behbudi, Munavvar Qori, Ubaidulla Khojaev, and Fayzulla Khojaev do not please some people.

In February 1919, Mustafa Chokai addressed a special memorandum to European countries, calling on them to support the struggle of the independence fighters in Turkestan against the Bolsheviks and to overthrow the Soviet regime.

In the spring of 1919, he traveled through the Kazakh steppes and the Caspian Sea, first to Baku, and then to Tiflis (Tbilisi). Here he edited the newspapers "Yeni Dünya" and "Şafak" and the magazine "Na Rubezhe". After the Red Army captured Tiflis, Mustafa Chokai was forced to emigrate and ended up in Istanbul. Mustafa Chokai arrived in Paris in the summer of 1921. He lived in exile for 20 years. From 1929 he became the chairman of the Central Committee of the Turkestan National Unity. He edited the magazine "Yash Türkistan", which was published in 1929-1939. The magazine was prepared in Paris and published in Berlin (117 issues were printed).

Mustafa Chokai, living in exile, wrote in his article "On Basmachestve" about the armed independence movement against the Soviet regime in the Central Asian republics (the Bolsheviks called it the "basmachestvo" movement): "Turkestan is the only part of the Soviet Union where the insurgents have not stopped their movement until now. There are two reasons for this. First, the strength of the national feeling that led the country to fight to get rid of Moscow's oppression. This is the reason for the general situation. Second, there is also a reason of local character. This is a special feature of Soviet national policy, unique only to Turkestan."

On June 22, 1941, when Germany attacked the USSR, the Nazis arrested Mustafa Chokai, who lived in the town of Nogent near Paris. He was held in the Compiègne military camp until July 13. Mustafa Chokai visited the Suwalki, Wustrau, and Częstochowa concentration camps where Soviet prisoners of war were held from September to December 1941, looking for ways to save the captured Turkestans. Mustafa Chokai and the Uzbek Wali Kayumkhan of Tashkent planned to create



a Turkestan Legion from Turkestans. However, Mustafa Chokai contracted typhus in the concentration camps and died on December 27, 1941.

Mustafa Chokai wrote many articles and books on the history of Turkestan in the 20th century in Russian, Uzbek, Kazakh, Turkish, French, English, German, and Polish. The book “Fragments of Memory of 1917” (Berlin, 1937; in Uzbek) gained great popularity. This work was published as a separate book in Turkish (Ankara, 1988), Russian (Germany, 1989; Tokyo-Moscow, 2001), and Uzbek (Tashkent, 1992). His 2-volume book “Selected Works” (Almaty, 1998-1999) was published in Kazakh and partially in Russian.

After the collapse of the USSR, Mustafa Chokai's works were published in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Under the leadership of the famous historian and scholar Professor Kushim Esmagambetov, a 12-volume collection of Mustafa Chokai's works was published in Almaty. In Kazakhstan, works of art were created about Mustafa Chokai, films were shot, and monuments were erected in his memory.



Islam Sultan Shoakhmedov (Shohislam Shagisultanovich Shagiakhmetov. 1882–1922) is a well-known Muslim public and political figure.

Born on November 21, 1882 in Orenburg into a Tatar-Bashkir family. I. Shoakhmedov's worldview was formed mainly among the Orenburg Tatars. After graduating from the Orenburg Men's Gymnasium (1905), I. Shoakhmedov studied at the Faculty of Oriental Studies and then at the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg University (1905–1910). In addition to Turkish and Russian, he was fluent in English, French, and German. As a student, he became interested in the social democratic movement in Russia and in 1907 conducted propaganda work among the soldiers of the Tashkent garrison. Member and secretary of the Executive Committee of the All-Russian Council of Muslims, which was established in Petrograd in the summer of 1917.



He became the editor of the "Muslim Newspaper", published in St. Petersburg in October 1912. He defended representatives of the Menshevik party in a number of court cases. I. Shoakhmedov fought for the rights of the Muslim population of the Russian Empire. He arrived in Kokand in early 1915. I. Shoakhmedov began his career as a deputy investigating attorney at the Skobelev District Court. Here he played an important role in publishing the newspaper "Sadoi Fergana". In 1916, he founded the "Gairat" society, launched the publication of the newspaper "Turkestansky Krai" and edited it. In 1916, he supported the labor uprising in the Fergana Valley.

He was Deputy Prime Minister in the Turkestan Autonomous Government, later Minister of Finance. Author of the draft Constitution of the Turkestan Autonomous Government. When the Autonomous Government was abolished, he was captured by the Bolsheviks in the Kokand fortress (February 1918). In the spring of 1918, the newspaper "Ulug Turkestan" reported that he went insane as a result of torture in a prison in Tashkent and was transferred to a prison infirmary. In May 1918, he was released from prison after the Bolsheviks pardoned the surviving members of the Turkestan Autonomous Government.

In 1919-1920, I. Shoakhmedov collaborated with the Bolsheviks. At the end of 1920, he secretly went to Manchuria. At the beginning of 1921, he ended up in a camp for Russian refugees in Peshawar, British India. I. Shoakhmedov arrived in Vladivostok in August 1921 with the financial support of his relative, the wealthy merchant Agafurov family. Shortly thereafter, I. Shoakhmedov fell seriously ill and stayed with relatives in Vladivostok. He died in late 1922 or later, at the age of 40.



Ubaidulla Khodjaev (Ubaidullakhodja Asadullahhodjaev; Ubaidulla Asadullaevich Khodjaev. 1886–1942) was a prominent statesman and public figure, one of the organizers of the Uzbek press.

Born in Tashkent in 1886 into a family of craftsmen. Studied at the Saratov Law Institute (1908–1912). While still a student, he corresponded with the famous Russian writer Leo Tolstoy (1909).



He worked as a private lawyer in the Tashkent District Court from 1913. He soon became one of the leaders of the Jadid movement. In April 1914, he published the newspaper "Sadoi Turkiston" in Tashkent and edited it. Gathering young people around him, he created the secret society "Umid". Later, this organization was renamed "Tarakkiiparvar" and became the leading organization of the Jadids of Turkestan. When "Sadoi Turkiston" was closed by the tsarist authorities, he came to Andijan and published the newspaper "Turkestanskiy golos" in Russian.

He traveled to Petrograd with local investor Mirkomilboy Mirmominbayev to repeal the decree of Emperor Nicholas II on forced labor. He was secretary and member of the Central Council of Muslims of the Turkestan region (National Center) (April 1917), member of the Executive Committee of the All-Russian Council of Muslims (May 1917), chairman of the "Shuroi Islamiya" organization, established in Tashkent in March 1917, one of the initiators of the Autonomy movement, and Minister of Military Affairs of the Turkestan Autonomous Government (November 1917 - February 1918).

Ubaidulla Khojaev went to the Caucasus on a government assignment in February 1918 and resolved the issue of grain supplies to Turkestan. After the autonomy was abolished, he fell into the hands of the Bolsheviks on the Ashgabat - Samarkand railway. After being pardoned by the Soviet authorities in May 1918, he went to Orenburg and actively participated in the formation of the government of the Bashkir Autonomous Region.

Ubaidulla Khodzhaev was arrested several times (1918, 1929, 1931, 1938). After his release, he lived in poverty in his sister's house in Tashkent. He translated the famous work of the English writer J.R. Kipling "Mowgli" into Uzbek. He was arrested for the last time on February 20, 1938 in Tashkent, and by the decision of the Special Council of the USSR NKVD on May 14, 1939, he was sentenced to 8 years in a labor camp. He died in prison on October 31, 1942.

The son of Ubaidulla Khojaev's sister, the nephew of Ubaidulla Khojaev, the People's Poet of Uzbekistan Shukrullo (1921–2020) covered the work of Ubaidulla Khojaev in his novel "Living Souls" (1999) and the fate of our repressed compatriots in his memoir "Buried Without Shrouds" (1990).



Obidjon Abdukholiqovich Mahmudov (Obid chatak. 1871-1936) is a state and public figure, a major investor and publisher.

Born on May 12, 1871 in Margilan. His father, Abdukhaliq, was a gunner originally from Bukhara. Obidjon Mahmudov moved to Kokand and received a madrasah education. He went to the Cheleken Peninsula in the Caspian Sea, where he engaged in oil extraction and became rich.

Mining Engineering of St. Petersburg University . Participated in the discovery of many oil fields in the Fergana Valley. He actively participated in the Jadid movement in the Fergana Valley and provided them with financial support. In 1914, he founded a printing house. Editor and publisher of the newspapers "Sadoi Fergana" (1914), "Tirik Soz" (1917) and the Russian-language "Ferganskoye Ekho" (1914).

O. Mahmudov was elected deputy chairman of the Kokand City Duma in 1917. The National Center, headed by Mustafa Chokai, moved from Tashkent to Kokand in early November 1917 and settled in his courtyard. O. Mahmudov played a major role in convening the Extraordinary Fourth Congress of Muslims of All Turkestan and the formation of the Turkestan Autonomy Government. He served in the government as Minister of Food . Later , he held the position of Minister of Justice. Obidjon Mahmudov was arrested several times by the Soviet regime. Due to serious illnesses he contracted in prison, he died on November 21, 1936 at the age of 65.



Abdurahmonbek Orazaev (1888–1937) is a well-known state and public figure.

Born in 1888 in the city of Yangi Margilan (now Fergana) into a family of officials. On his father's side, Abdurakhmonbek was descended from the Kipchak clan of Kazakhs. His father, Muhammad Urazaev (died May 10, 1898), was one of the nobles of the Middle Zhuz, graduated from the 2nd Orenburg Cadet Corps and worked as a translator and secretary in the Margilan district administration. His mother, Niyazzhan Bibikhanim, was an Uzbek woman born in the village of Avval, Yangi Margilan district, Fergana region, and after the death of her husband, she worked as a teacher.



A. Orazaev graduated from the Skobelev Gymnasium (1910) and the Faculty of Law of Moscow University (1915). He was elected a member of the All-Russian Constituent Assembly from the Fergana electoral district (1917). He became the deputy minister of internal affairs and a member of the National Assembly in the Turkestan Autonomous Government. Then he worked as the Minister of Internal Affairs.

After the Bolsheviks overthrew the autonomous government, A. Urazaev fell into the hands of the Bolsheviks at the end of February 1918. He was initially amnestied in May 1918 and worked in various positions in the Soviet authorities. A. Urazaev was later exiled to Siberia. There, after falling seriously ill with tuberculosis, he was allowed to return to his relatives (sister) in Tashkent. He lived in the house of his son-in-law, the famous scientist Kori Niyazi. He lived in Tashkent for a while, and died in 1937.

A. Urazaev's sister, *Oishakhanim Urazaeva* (September 2, 1897 - January 31, 1988), worked in Soviet schools like her mother. She was one of the first female teachers in Turkestan. She graduated from a women's gymnasium in the city of Skobelev (now Fergana) and taught Russian at a Russian-language school in Namangan. Then she worked at a Soviet school in Skobelev. She later married *Tashmuhammad Niyazovich Qori-Niyazi*, an academician and the first president of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan.



Nasirkhan Tora (son of Nasirkhantora Said Kamolkhantora. 1873–1931) is one of the ideological leaders of the independence movement, a famous scholar.

Born in 1873 in Namangan to a family of Uzbek scholars. He studied in Bukhara, then in Kabul, Delhi, Baghdad and the Hijaz. After returning to Turkestan, he became a judge in the city of Namangan in 1912. From 1913 he actively participated in the Jadid movement. Head of the Namangan branch of the "Shuroi Islamiya" organization, member of the Namangan City Duma (1917).

Extraordinary IV Congress of Muslims of All Turkestan on November 26-28, 1917 in the city of Kokand. He was included in the government of the Turkestan Autonomy as Minister of Education.



In 1919, he organized a cell of the "National Unity" organization in Kosansoy. He was arrested several times by the Soviet regime. He was exiled in Orenburg (1925-1928) . After returning from exile, he continued his active struggle against the existing regime.

Analysis and results

At a meeting of the OGPU special troika on October 27, 1930, case 5054 , namely the case of Nasirkhan Tura and his associates (a total of 92 people), was considered and sentenced. 12 of Nasirkhan Tura and his associates were sentenced to death, and the rest to various terms of imprisonment. According to archival sources, the repressed Nasirkhan Tura was shot on April 13, 1931 in Tashkent at the age of 55. There are Nasirkhan Tura's "History of Turkestan" (consisting of 15 chapters), memoirs "Orenburg Letters" and other works.

At a session of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan held on August 25, 2021, the criminal case against Nasirkhan Tura and 92 others was dismissed and they were posthumously acquitted.



Born in 1884 in Turkestan to an Uzbek family. Engaged in farming and trade, he became one of the largest investors in Turkestan. He built a cotton ginning plant and opened a new school in Turkestan (1914). He participated in the meeting of the Muslim branch of the State Duma in St. Petersburg (1914). He moved to Tashkent in 1917 and became a member of the city Duma. As a member of the "Shuroi Islam" organization, he actively participated in the formation of the Turkestan Autonomous Government in November 1917 and became the government's treasurer.

After the Bolsheviks overthrew the autonomous government, S. Mirjalilov first went to Samara and Tiflis, and then lived for a while in Turkey. In 1921, he returned to Tashkent and founded the "Turkiston" trade and industrial company, from which he supported the "Milliy Ittihad" organization with the income received , and provided some students sent to study in Germany with a pension and provided them with financial assistance. He was one of the founders of the educational organization "Nashri Ma'afar" and the "Kumak" society (1923-1925) . S. Mirjalilov financially supported Hamza and Chulpon, the writer Abdulla Qodiri.



He was arrested several times by the Soviet regime (1925, 1932, 1937). He was imprisoned on the Solovki Islands (1925–1928) . S. Mirjalilov was arrested for the third time on July 21, 1937 in Tashkent and shot on October 9, 1937. S. Mirjalilov's daughter *Zarifa Saidnosirova* (1908–1986) was a chemist, professor, Honored Scientist of Uzbekistan (1968), and the first Uzbek woman artist. She was the wife of the famous writer Oybek (1905–1968). Z. Saidnosirova's memoirs "Oybegim mening" have been published.

Conclusions and recommendations

Undoubtedly, these efforts of the nationalists confused the Bolsheviks. The Council of People's Commissars of the Turkestan region began military operations to end the Turkestan Autonomy on January 30, 1918. On January 31, the Soviets sent more than 200 soldiers from the cities of Skobelev (now Fergana), Andijan, and later Perovsk (now Kyzylorda) to Kokand. In addition to the national army of the autonomy, which consisted of about 1,000 people, representatives of the Kokand civilian population also participated in the initial battle. The number of people carrying mainly axes, picks, hoes, sickles, and sticks reached 10,000 people. The unarmed city residents bravely repelled the Reds' attack for three days. On the night of February 19, 1918, another 11 echelons of troops, consisting of infantry, cavalry and artillery units, arrived from Tashkent under the command of the military commissar of the Turkestan region, E. Perfilyev. Starting from February 19, for 3 days, the Reds rained down artillery shells on the city. Kokand was completely destroyed and burned down. Over 10,000 people were massacred in three days.

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