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## THE 1939 CENSUS (ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE UZBEK USSR)

**Ilhomjon Gulomov**

**PhD student**

**Department of History of Uzbekistan**

**National University of Uzbekistan**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

**Abstract:** This article analyzes the Soviet government's serious involvement in the census and other issues, mobilizing many parties and Soviet officials to further strengthen Bolshevik power in the country in an effort not to lose the national republics in the Central Asian region.

**Keywords:** Bolshevik power, Central Asian, Soviet officials, involvement, national republics, socio-economic lifestyle, USSR

### Introduction

During the Soviet era, among many problems, the socio-economic lifestyle of the population in the national republics was not approached fairly. Also, the history of relations between the Uzbek USSR and Russia was falsified in the spirit of the time. This is a typical study of Soviet historiography, which noted that Russia had brought the population of the republic from the centuries of backwardness to the peak of development. Historical research has not clearly stated that the center has economic, political, military-strategic interests in the national republics.

In an effort not to lose the national republics in the Central Asian region, the Soviet government intensified its census, mobilizing many party and Soviet officials to further strengthen Bolshevik rule in the country. The reason was that the government was well aware that the figures from these measures would serve as a program for water and air, as well as for planning economic activities in the coming years. The leaders of the center carried out extensive propaganda work not only in the Uzbek USSR, but also in other national republics and other allied countries about the socio-economic and political

significance of the 1939 census. As a result, a number of statistics obtained as a result of the 1939 census have been practically justified in the interests of the center for years.

### **The Main Findings and Results**

According to the decision of the USSR ICC №. 859 of July 26, 1938, the census of the All-Union population was scheduled for January 17, 1939[1.4]. The next event was scheduled to complete the registration process in urban areas by January 23, 1939, and in rural areas by January 26. The program of the event of 1939 was developed with the direct participation of the head of the Soviet government V.M. Molotov[1.4]. The reason was that after the results of the previous registration in 1937 were found to be unsatisfactory by a government commission, V.M. Molotov was personally assigned to lead and manage the 1939 event. In addition, after the completion of the main registration of this event, it is planned to conduct control marches in the cities from January 24 to February 2, 1939, and in the villages from January 27 to February 5[1.9]. The reason was that if the population of any city, district, or rural area was not registered, it had to be registered in these control marches. This control course was not officially established in previous enrollment years and was not included in the enrollment program at all[1.23].

An analysis of the data in a number of archival documents quoted above suggests that these control raids were in part due to the repression or deportation of many of the leaders, accountants, and instructors attached to the 1937 registration process. The final results of the 1939 census were to take into account changes in the lives of the country's population within Stalin's "five-year plans" and to provide the necessary materials for the development of future work to be drawn up for the third five-year plans. During this census, leaders at all levels - the party, the Soviet, the economic administration - had to be armed with the necessary information about the population.

According to the decision of the USSR ICC, all responsibilities for the management and conduct of the 1939 All-Union census in the USSR were also assigned to the head of the USSR Central Economic Accounting Department[1.22]. In 1939, the All-Union Population Registration Bureau was established under this organization to prepare for and implement the census, and to process the results[1.54]. The heads of the departments of national economy of the republic, districts and regions are responsible for the management of the registration process within the Union and autonomous

republics, districts and regions[1.25]. Under them, as in large cities, census bureaus were set up. The organization and implementation of the census in the cities and districts is entrusted to the district and city economic accounting officers.

Among the events that took place during the years of the Russian Empire and the Soviet regime, the 1939 census was different from previous ones in that this year's event was held for more than a year [1.41] and the existing permanent population was fully registered. Based on a comparative analysis of data from many sources, it can be concluded that as a result of these measures, insufficient attention was paid to the socio-economic lifestyle of the population. Based on the results obtained during the event, plans for the coming years were made only on the instructions of the center's management.

In addition to the question of education in the 1939 registration form, the question of whether he had completed secondary or higher education was also included as part of this question[1.37]. In fact, to determine the level of education of the population, a 1939 registration form included a questionnaire consisting of 3 questions. Although the number of questions developed for this event was 16, in fact, with the questions within the question, their number was close to 25. In the events of 1920 and 1926, the level of literacy was studied only for general information. According to the results of the 1939 event, the level of education of the population in each region was calculated in exact numbers[1.39].

During the study of archival documents covering the research work, it was found that before the start of the 1939 event, the head of the USSR Central Committee V. Starovsky sent a special telegram to all allied republics on November 26, 1938 №16-10-360[1.2]. The telegram warned to mobilize all efforts and resources for the registration process, to check the preparations in all places for the last time, and not to repeat the mistakes of 1937. This telegram itself was in a sense a signal to all the staff involved in the event. The reason was that if the shortcomings observed in the previous event were repeated, it was clear that no one would be blamed.

In 1939 the total population of the national republics was 16,626,760, of which the total population living in urban areas was 4,090,059, and the total population of rural areas was 12,536,701. The population was significantly higher in the two republics, mainly in the Uzbek USSR and the Kazakh USSR. A study of a number of population sources

revealed that in the years following World War II, the population of the Kazakh USSR declined, while the population of the Uzbek USSR increased due to natural growth and migration.

Sources covering the 1939 census note that population growth in the national republics was largely due to immigrants. According to the population identified at the 1926 census and the 1939 census, the total average population of the USSR increased by 15.9%, the population of the Kyrgyz USSR by 45.7%, the population of the Tajik USSR by 43.9%, and the population of the Turkmen USSR by 25. The population of the Kazakh USSR increased by 6%, the population of the Uzbek USSR by 33.4%, and the population of the Uzbek USSR by 37.6% [1, 42]. Analyzing the sources of the period under study, it can be said that by 1939, as a result of the increasingly serious political processes in the USSR, resettlement to many areas has increased significantly. For this reason, the population of the regions was constantly changing.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, it should be noted that the indifference of the Soviet authorities to the national composition of the local population in the republic and its social life and relations with other nations continued in recent years. The results obtained on the basis of the census also put a heavy burden on the shoulders of the population living in virtually all national and other allied republics. The scientific conclusions and suggestions gained from the processes of these events over the past century will help the younger generation, who are the creators of our future, to study these events and to study such processes in the future.

### References

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