

Research Article

Activities Of Sharof Rashdov In The Development Of Protected Lands Of The Republican Agriculture

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ABSTARCT

This article puts the emphasis on the leverage of protected lands' development under the authority of Sharof Rashidov - the expansion of land's zone involved in economic turnover, further satisfaction of population on food and industrial products and the issues of housing and food supply which have been increasingly acute, to name but a few. Sh. Rashidov's personal traits like, creativity, ingenuity, ecstasy relish and people's complacency, life gratification and fate that had led him to consider interests' of a human to be the bottom line under conditions of repressive ideology were canvassed comprehensively.

Key words: Sharof Rashidov, leader, person, human, conflict, Soviet Union, national leader, national interests, historical event.

INTRODUCTION

Integrated development task of protected lands has created new aspects for tackling social problems of agriculture which can be spotted in uniquely social benefits that were formed with sophistication. The centerpiece in Sh. Rashidov's activity lies on the complex program of desert land development which targets to solve social conundrums. Such a program is one of the initial, unforeseen steps in the activity of the Soviet Union. The Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR "On Irrigation of Reserve Lands in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan to Increase Cotton Production" of August 6, 1956 considered the master plan for the development of protected lands in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Tasks of building and expanding administrative territories through land development in the country, employment of the population, as well as addressing the growing housing and food problems in Uzbekistan were taken into account. Reconstruction of villages in Uzbekistan carried out in two primal directions within the 70s and 80s of the twentieth century. First direction implied the regulation of irrigated lands, location in oasis and foothills as well as reconstruction of prospective residential areas. In contrast, the other considered the creation of large residential areas in connection with the complex development of construction lands and the construction of a large number of rural settlements. Achievements in the reconstruction of rural settlements, improving the cultural and living conditions of workers were primarily due to a comprehensive approach to the issues of beautification of these farms in accordance with

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scientifically based construction plans using increased economic, local material, financial and other resources. Economic efficiencies of construction with concentrating settlements in one place were also taken into consideration. However, this kind of economics enabled negative losses too. Agricultural workers demanded attention around the clock in the cotton specialty who, along with his family, represented a preference to stay on the edge of a field, simply because, a peasant possessed a backyard around the cotton field. Additionally, there was an opportunity to breed and feed cattle, sheep and poultry. Decisions that emerged in cabinets concerning rural life were certainly not in the interests of farmers.

During his tenure, Rashidov had repeatedly altered similar instructions and decisions, so as to adapt them to certain conditions. At that time, without a shadow of doubt, the leaders of the center had different insights and opinions on the issue of construction and land development due to the fact that large sums and expenses were envisaged. Latterly, in February 20, 1978, in order to improve housing construction in rural areas, the USSR State Construction decided to build one or two-storey, one-two-room and block houses as the main types of houses to be rebuilt in townships, state farms, collective farms and other agricultural enterprises. To state, Sh. Rashidov was the initiator of various issues in the construction of the desert. Based on his clear practical experience and personal observations, he suggested new proposals and problems to the attention of the center. In this context, on one hand, Sh. Rashidov pursued the center requirements of desert development in the interests of Uzbekistan. On the other hand, the expansion of housing and employment opportunities for the growing population in the country were pertinently of crucial role. Inter-collective construction organizations were set up in the country with the help of local authorities to accelerate housing construction and establish a technical basis. Enterprises producing special construction materials were built in regions and districts as a result of which the source of agricultural construction was originated. In July 1969, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR adopted a resolution "On measures to improve cultural, social and housing construction in rural areas". This resolution accentuated precautionary measures of the assignments of housing construction acceleration and elaboration of schools, kindergartens, utilities and cultural buildings. Likewise, a Council was founded under the leadership of Sh. Rashidov to improve the culture of rural life in Uzbekistan. Later, the Council supplied direct assistance to inter-collective construction organizations in developing the activities of rural housing cooperatives. These measures soon bore their fruit. By 1979, over 700 agricultural housing cooperatives had been established. In the village, Cooperative construction organizations have discovered a variety of housing projects. Consequently, cooperative in the villages of Kayirma, Akhunbabayev collective farm, Kuva district, Andijan region were rewarded with the third level diploma of USSR Economic Achievements Exhibition. At the time of being, accommodations for 10 families were structured and other 20 ones were planned to resume. Furthermore, the followings were erected in a rural settlement: 400-seat palace of culture, a shop, school and kindergartens. Totally, in 1979, 27 settlements of collective and state farms of Uzbekistan received diplomas of the Exhibition of Economic Achievements of the USSR. Organizations of such initiatives were a strong forte of Sh. Rashidov.

Sh. Rashidov was unrivalled at organizing such initiatives and illustrating achievements on a republican scale in which, indeed, he implied political-diplomatic purposes. One of the most paramount aspects of these measures is that if in 1956-66 the desert development was designed in the central offices and the work was organized on their instructions, in 1966-80s the republic formed its own technical raw material cornerstone. A number of scientific institutions on

agricultural construction were introduced, like “Uzgiroselkhoz”, “Uzgiroselstyroy”, “Uzmejkolkhozproekt”, “Sredazirgiroselinstroy” with the help of which various projects of courtyard summer kitchen, barn and other additional buildings were developed. As a result, he was able to create a scientific-technic foundation on housing construction issues, however, particular pitfalls emerged. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan held a belief that the volume and construction of housing, schools, kindergartens, health care and other cultural facilities in Jizzakh had not met the new requirements. Engineering communications including development of heating, plumbing and sewerage networks, introduction of transport highways, beautification and landscaping were lagging behind and urban development were not carried out comprehensively in a number of cases. Together with the main production, accommodation and cultural facilities, the program encompassed in itself agricultural processing enterprises designed for one or more state farms, airfield, cemeteries, cattle graveyards and waste collection points. The scheme of engineering communications within the farm, i. e road, plumbing, communication, power supply, was as follows: the fortress of the state farm was connected by road and radio communication with the production and economic center of the departments, the central fortress of the brigade sheds, the department and the production economic center. According to the state instructions, the housing level for the population of the state farm amounted to 9 sq. m per family member, and 6.0 sq. m per person for dormitory residents. The central fortress of the state farm targeted to include the followings:

- a) kitchen with a semi-finished product shop;
- b) teahouse with a concrete pool;
- c) consumer services complex;
- d) hotel for 10-12 people;
- e) kindergarten and nursery;
- f) school;
- g) summer cinema;
- h) club and sports ground;
- i) pharmacy;
- j) polyclinic;
- k) industrial and food stores ground;
- l) bathroom and laundry service;
- m) bakery;
- n) state farm office;
- o) building for the village council;
- p) savings bank;
- q) post office;
- r) telephone exchange;
- s) fire station, etc.

Housing construction was executed at a high rate, and micro-districts with all the amenities of the urban life began to appear around the city which was accomplished with an industrial dexterity. Indeed, as it had been claimed in the resolution, the pace of cultural-domestic and social construction was not commensurate with the pace of industrial construction and the consequent increase in urban population. There were serious shortcomings in capital construction planning. As a result of the capital breakdown, material, technical and human

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resources, the construction period of some facilities were much longer than planned. Additionally, various districts witnessed low construction quality, incompleteness of beautification and engineering supply. It is worthy to note that urban construction in irrigated lands was first to be registered all over the world. Therefore, the aforementioned incidents of the distortions and deficiencies may have been a natural circumstance. In terms of architectural planning level, spatial-territorial and engineering solutions as well as standards had been adopted that were 10-15 years ahead of the existing practice of planning and construction of residential areas which had implied advanced expertise of designing and structuring. Sophisticated designs were primarily bestowed for accommodations and public buildings. Furthermore, 12 model collective and state farm settlements were erected in the republic, where new experimental types were evolved. Thanks to the irrigation and complex development of the protected lands, deserts were embellished, life became more enlivening, at the same time, the fate of every man in the desert transformed radically, since he or she was not only the master of his property but also the creator of his prospective future. New settlements construction with well-developed housing, highly mechanized enterprises, advanced transport and utilities was an integral part of complex measures for the exploitation of the Karshi desert. Nascent state farms had been planned taking into account productive work of rural laborers, along with all the conditions for domestic service and cultural recreation. State farms in Mirzachul even considered the peculiarities of settlements' organization in the desert areas which is the proof of grand experience. During the initial years of land development, the preponderance of laborers dwelled in mobile wagons and tents. Over a number of years, the central fortress of the state farm has changed beyond recognition. Thereupon, laborers and servants relocated to cozy and convenient cottages.

In the span of 1974-76, in the state farm "50 years of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan" 90 one-storey houses, 18 two-storey cottages, a secondary school for 470 students, a summer cinema for 400 seats, a kitchen, a teahouse, a clubhouse, a department store, a service house, a kindergarten and an outpatient clinic were erected and completed. Particular attention is paid to the community center, which was the leading architectural ensemble that defines the unique appearance of the state farm fortress. Administrative buildings, main cultural and household trade facilities were located here. In compliance with rule, the team was formed around the main center of the central fortress which was next to a park surrounded by a club, a summer cinema, a school and a stadium. Turning to 1978, Karshi desert was introduced accommodations with 137 thousand sq. kilometer, a school for 1696 pupils, kindergartens for 690 children, a club for 750 people and a vocational school for 600 people. During the third five-year period, 560,000 sq. m of housing and dozens of cultural facilities were put-up in the Karshi desert. With respect to desert development, overall, 46 state farms and 6 new districts, Kasbi, Usmon Yusupov, Nishon, Muborak, Bakhoriston, Talimarjon, came into existence. The water influx into Karshi desert steppes had brought about a radical change in the socio-economic foundations of human life, providing an opportunity for the steady growth of productive forces while irrigation gave a green light to the transformation of rural life culture. In 1980, 5 billion Uzbek soums were disbursed on the development of the Karshi desert. Over the past 30 years, about 3 million sq. m of housing, 11,540-seat kindergartens, contemporary schools for 56,750-seat schools, 8,540-bed medical facilities, 1,718-bed hospitals, 17,825-seat clubs and many other cultural facilities had been set up in this very desert for domestic, administrative and economic purposes. 4193 km of power transmission lines of different capacities, 1941 km of water pipelines, 1141 km of sewerage networks, 362 km of heat transmission lines, 799 km of gas transmission lines, 400 km of roads were laid which were the spectacular reflections of grand

and potent construction industry. In fact, Karshi desert and other protected lands fully covered expenses incurred in the 1980s. In addition, the protected areas in the Karshi desert annually yielded an average of 36,000 tons of grain, 18,000 tons of vegetables, 4,000 tons of fresh and dried fruits, and 20,000 tons of melon crops. In spite of these initiatives taken, housing issues were controversial case in pastoral territories which was chiefly due to arduous demographic circumstance and violations of investment policy. In 1970, 0.38 sq. m of housing was built per capita in rural areas whilst in 1985 this figure dropped to 0.3 sq. m. Only coming to 1987, this proportion witnessed a slight change reaching 0.35 sq. m. It is interesting to note that private housing in suburbs was three or four times more than in urban areas. When it comes to housing fund, which is the personal property of citizens, amounted 2.1 times more if compared to the case in cities. As stated at a meeting of party activists in Tashkent on July 11, 1987, the public housing stock in rural zones registered to be only 17%, and about 90% of private housing consisted of poorly thatched straw mud buildings with overly mere utility costs in terms of its communal well-being. For sure, these initiatives enabled peculiar incommodities. To illustrate, during the development of the Karshi desert, over 60,000 hectares of pastures in Nishan district were destroyed, about 15 cotton state farms and auxiliary farms of industrial enterprises were established. Although 56.5 thousand hectares of land were allotted for cultivation, more than 4-5 thousand hectares were incongruous for cotton growth. In other areas, the harvest set to become 8-10 tons or even less per hectare owing to a thick layer of plaster under a thin ground layer of arable land which was the reason of cotton development hindrance. Nonetheless, the spread of crop fields did not ceased where sovkhos settlements were structured.

As everything enables risk and benefit, existing reasons were known, however, the Center allocated additional funds only for the purpose of expanding the area under crops. Expansion of additional arable lands was carried out synchronically with the construction of a savkhoz complex in which all social structures were planned thoroughly. I envisage that a state farm village, constructed with entire amenities, intrigued Sh. Rashidov more in contrast to the case of arable fields. Population was supplied with accommodations. Though, planned work approach entailed not to lag behind. Consequently, there were plans of agricultural yields in incomplete state and collective farms in a number of cases. With breaching Union's schemes, the state put up 20 more state farms relying on the instructions of the authority. Unplanned construction not related to land development included greenhouses, temporary unheated barns and poultry farms in Jizzakh city and centers of regions. Several hotels and sheds were set up in case of guests and other purposes. Beside this plan, scads of buildings without projects were erected in other regions, too. As a result, the significance of accommodation, school, kindergarten, cultural and household facilities was converted to be subordinate. Within the four years of the twelfth Five-Year Plan, the contractors of the republic managed to fulfill 320 million soums less than targeted. This denoted that almost 200 consequential production facilities, with place 1 million sq. km, kindergartens for 9 thousand children could not be put into practice. Likewise, nascent formed protected areas enclosed industrial enterprises.

Sulfur gas plant in Muborak is a first and sole enterprise that recycles gas producing 47 billion cubic meters of gas and yielding 220 thousand tons of sulfur on an annual basis where Muborak city has come into existence. Alternatively, Karshi city was converted into a production camp where one could encounter in oil extraction plant, sewing factory and other gigantic agro-industrial enterprises. Such production facilities repeated in Syrdarya, Surkhandarya and in the Republic of Karakalpakstan. By and large, industry in newly irrigated territories experienced its heydays. Various agricultural machine production expanded its capacity in order to farm and

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cultivate the soil. This sentiment also considers the manufacture of cotton cleaning equipment. Last but not least, textile mills and fertilizer plants have been raised.

Construction industry elaboration, particularly, in deserts was of grand paramount which was the primal condition of irrigation improvement. In order to do so, a number of mechanical enterprises, plants for the production of precast reinforced concrete, cotton processing, brick, drainage pipes and sand-gravel repair mechanics were presented to use. Premier enterprises were positioned in Jizzakh, Guliston, Bekabad, Khovos and Yangiyer which latterly gave a rise to construction in Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya regions.

Rapid proliferation of industrial enterprises in 1969 boosted the production of reinforced concrete products to 102 thousand cubic meters, silica calcite blocks to 40 thousand cubic meters, baked bricks to 47 million cubic meters, gypsum plasterboard curtain slabs to 28.5 thousand square meters, ceramic pipes to 28.5 thousand tons, inert pipes to concrete to 650,000 cubic meters, metal structures to 3,000 tons. Such an approach to the complex evolution of the reserve accelerated the construction of housing and the solution of cultural and social problems on state farms. On the other hand, conditions were established to preserve the labor force. On the basis of these, a thorough and complete economic system commenced to be formed.

Sh. Rashidov made a worthy contribution to the above-mentioned deeds and the increase in agricultural production with his huge organizational activity. During that decade, not only industrial giants but also multiple new cities emerged on the newly developed lands where along with agriculture, large-scale industry was prospered. These achievements were procured in a situation where it was necessary to reckon with the pressure of the Center, to unconditionally track its instructions. At the same time, national interests should have not been neglected. It was crystal clear at that time what the consequences would be for Uzbekistan to become a real raw material base. In such a situation, attempts were made to develop industrial production in various ways. Complex development method and the use of new lands for economic purposes has been applied in the world for the first time in almost 40 years in Mirzachul, Karshi, Jizzakh, Surkhan-Sherabad deserts and the Lower Amudarya region which evidently delineates the fact that necessary socio-economic basis has been created for the rational integration of all production factors on the basis of a complex method, the effective use of auxiliary material and technical means, their steady strengthening in agricultural production. With the help of advanced industrial technology use, there was a prospect to increase the living standards and material well-being of workers, to improve the cultural and social services provided to the rural population. Protected area development is closely associated with immemorial history of economic development in Uzbekistan that determines peculiar traits of land use. Without irrigation, many agricultural crops would have not been grown here. This means that the growth of the welfare of the people in Uzbekistan, productive forces development hinges in many respects on the situation in irrigated agriculture with which Sh. Rashidov was acquainted decently. To state, he tried his best to carry out huge constructions and develop more lands.

Without Rashidov's clear and determined leadership, the situation could have been completely different. There is a world of difference between making a decision and putting it into practice. I guess, current achievements would have not been attained with absence of his leadership aptitude. In brief, during the 1960s and 1980s, Uzbekistan underwent a process of effective development of all productive force while in the 1970s, new networks of enterprises were established. It is worth bearing in mind that economics and social policy were bustling with hitches. The Centre's state of being right was regarded the most primal one. Intermittently, the Centre came to accept verdicts which were not confabulated with taking into account plans and

enough comprehension that consequently led to disproportion with the agendas of different republics. During the Soviet era, the human factor was a subordinate issue, targeted to achieving tremendous results and performance, especially in the post-Soviet period. In the following periods, it started to be evident that the social sphere, the interests of the people was not reverberated in Soviet policy. In view of unilateralism in policy, allotted capital was devoted primarily to production, and only if it boosts, to the social sphere in which bizarre and natural climate of developing deserts was not taken into account involving a gradual run-up of the population on an annual basis, heat and such other natural factors. Due to the fact that the climate of the Central Asian region was not considered by the Center, its geographical isolation was taken for granted, and it was secured along with all other places. In the following years since the capital was distributed to all sectors equally, villages in Uzbekistan had lagged far behind cities in all fields. To illustrate, throughout the Soviet Union during 1960-70s, the number of children between the age 1 and 7 abated by 7.4% while this proportion towards Uzbekistan registered 1.5 times more. Nevertheless, kindergartens were structured with the same pace in both Uzbekistan and the Soviet Union. For example, as of 1970, Uzbekistan's demand for children's institutions was met the standards of the Center by only 14%.

Additionally, the construction of accommodations as new agricultural structures was also failing to meet the requirements. At the same time, administrative-command system, deeply rooting in the society, gradually commenced to neglect local interests. The Center, primarily, ruled the economic policy. To state, everyone's standpoint was centralized to the implementation of the 5-year plan, and no one cared what would happen in 15-30 years as there was no plan for many years. All wishes of the Center accomplished unconditionally.

Pursuant to the data, owing to the Uzbeks' altruistic work in 1985, 900 irrigation systems and 92 hydraulic structures were under use in the country for the purposes of agriculture. 23 artificial sea-reservoirs could be referred as a solid barrier to poverty, holding about 10 billion cubic meters of water to irrigate the land, e. g reservoirs of Charvak which was the most gigantic one in the Central Asia, Tuyamuyin in lower reaches of Khorazm and Amudarya rivers, Andijan in Koradaryo and others. Meanwhile, very large tracts of land were put into agricultural use. For example, if in 1946-1965 600 thousand hectares of land were developed, in 1966-1985 1.6 million hectares witnessed this experience. In addition, 6.9 million hectares of pastures supplied with irrigation system. Typically, those developed lands yielded cotton, and other food products. In contrast, protected lands were introduced residential areas, villages, farms, districts and also new cities. In particular, developed zones in Mirzachul enclosed in itself districts like Mirzachul, Zarbdor, Zafarobod, Dustlik, Arnasay, Okoltin, Mehnatobod together with residential settlements such as Yangiyer, Gulistan, Pakhtakor, Dustlik, Buston, Gagarin and Pakhtaobod.

Thanks to the the basics of integrated development formation of protected lands, the administrative territories of the republic have expanded its boundaries. Appropriately, social theoretical aspects of agricultural development emerged and were widely propagated. Housing, cultural and household facilities were procured on the basis of contemporary projects in desert that once had been barren. Furthermore, water, electricity, gas, heat transfer communications along with communication system, rail and highways were introduced. Rashidov's idea of developing reserves and expanding irrigated lands is in line with national traditions, production practices and the interests of Uzbeks. He processed this expansion policy with consciousness which by 1960-80s the land occupation had reached up to 1.5 million hectares. Agricultural products were grown on the developed lands, industrial enterprises were launched, thousands of villagers were employed, and the problem of population density was solved decently. We are

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convinced that Rashidov, together with the leadership of the republic, effectively leveraged the policy of the Center to intensify production and increase productivity through the opening of new lands. Particularly, despite large-scale projects to develop protected areas and improve the reclamation of irrigated lands over the past 40 years, the per capita land supply has been dwindling on an annual basis. Moreover, within 1960-1985s, the population of the Republic soared by 234%, while the irrigated land fund escalated by only 162%. Else, while in 1950 there were 0.42 hectares of land per capita, in 1987 this figure fell to 0.21 hectares concerning to the rapid population growth.

As it is clear from data, new land opening was one of the unique factors in staving off housing problem and food shortages in our country, where the population is incessantly multiplying since Sh. Rashidov managed to anticipate the future. On the other hand, he also regularly addressed the issue of harmonization of certain plans with the capabilities of the Republic, otherwise, it could not have been in this system. Rashidov, with the help of compromise in the colonial state of the republic, mitigated these contradictions as much as possible, took certain effective measures and initiatives. Uzbekistan is not an exception as every nation experiences both victory and defeat in its history. All in all, before the formation of the Uzbek nation, the concept of "my motherland" was also relative. However, Sh. Rashidov has become the architect of the national "park", which filled this relativity with essence, and left a huge legacy. Independence, on the other hand, returned the land we had revered, along with the will of the country. What we have inherited today means that we must preserve and resume it.

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