

## THE ENTERING OF INDUSTRY IN THE UZBEKISTAN SSR DURING WORLD WAR II AND FACTORS OF INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRIES

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**Abstract:** The changes that occurred in the industrial sector of the Uzbek SSR during World War II (1941-1945) are significant as the economic consequences of one of the largest conflicts in human history. With the outbreak of the war, hundreds of industrial enterprises in the western regions of the USSR, including machine-building, chemical, metallurgical and building materials factories, were evacuated to the east. These enterprises, relocated to Uzbekistan, radically changed the economy of the republic, developed heavy industry and played an important role in providing the front with the necessary products. This article analyzes the evacuation process, factors of industrial development, labor resources, local raw materials and government policy. During the war, factors such as the labor of the Uzbek population, especially women and youth, the experience of evacuated specialists, and the difficulties of the transport system created the basis for the rapid development of industry.

**Keywords:** World War II, Uzbek SSR, industrial evacuation, heavy industry, labor resources, economic development, rear.

**Introduction.** World War II is one of the largest conflicts in human history, causing unprecedented scale and destruction. This war is distinguished not only by military actions, but also by its profound impact on economic, social and demographic processes. In particular, for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), wartime conditions required the country's economy to adapt to military needs, the reorganization of production behind the front lines, and the rapid expansion of industrial potential.

In this process, the role of the republics of the USSR, including the Uzbek SSR, was of particular importance. As a strategic region located in the rear of the USSR, Uzbekistan became an important base for the deployment and development of industry during the war years. With the outbreak of the war, hundreds of industrial enterprises, plants and factories were evacuated from the western regions of the country and relocated to the territory of Uzbekistan. This process radically changed the structural structure of the republic's economy and served to accelerate the process of industrialization.

New production capacities were built on the basis of the evacuated enterprises, local personnel were trained, and the industrial potential of the regions significantly increased. As a result, Uzbekistan played an important role in providing the front with weapons, food and industrial products during the war.

The main purpose of this article is to scientifically analyze the processes of industrial evacuation carried out during the Second World War and its impact on the development of industry in the regions (provinces) of Uzbekistan. The relevance of the topic is determined by the assessment of Uzbekistan's economic and strategic contribution during the war years, as well as the identification of opportunities for the formation of modern economic policy based on historical experience. The article is prepared on the basis of archival documents, scientific research and historical sources, and is aimed at providing an objective and analytical approach to the issue.

Main part. World War II began on June 22, 1941 with the attack of Nazi Germany on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). In the first months of the war, the western regions of the USSR - Ukraine, Belarus and part of Russia - were occupied by the enemy. The threat of destruction or capture of industrial enterprises, especially factories and factories of military



importance located in these regions, sharply increased. Therefore, in order to preserve industrial potential and meet the needs of the front, it became necessary to relocate enterprises to the eastern and central regions of the country.

A large-scale industrial evacuation was carried out in 1941-1942 under the leadership of the Evacuation Council established by the USSR government. During this period, a total of 1,523 large industrial enterprises were evacuated from the western regions, of which 259 were located on the territory of the Uzbek SSR. Evacuated enterprises were brought mainly from the territories of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus and placed in various regions of the republic. This process marked a completely new stage in the industrial development of Uzbekistan. Among the enterprises relocated to Uzbekistan, the machine-building industry occupied an important place. In particular, the Tashkent Aviation Plant became a center for the production of military equipment during the war. In addition, chemical industry enterprises, factories producing building materials and other strategically important production facilities also began operating on the territory of the republic. These enterprises strengthened the local industrial infrastructure and significantly increased production capacity. The evacuation process was carried out in extremely difficult and difficult conditions. Equipment, raw materials and labor were transported by rail in thousands of wagons. Many enterprises were forced to restore and resume production in a short time. At the same time, more than 1 million evacuated residents, including more than 200 thousand children, were brought to the republic. This situation had a significant impact on the demographic composition of the population of Uzbekistan and led to an increase in labor resources. As a result, the process of industrial evacuation created a solid foundation for the rapid development of production in Uzbekistan, the formation of new industrial sectors, and the increase in the strategic importance of the republic during the war years.

#### Factors of industrial development in the regions

The development of the industry of the regions (regions) of Uzbekistan occurred under the influence of several factors:

1. "Evacuation and technological transfer": The evacuated enterprises brought modern technologies. For example, the hydraulic engineering and chemical industries developed in the Fergana Valley. Aviation and machine-building enterprises were built in Tashkent. This allowed heavy industry to grow 1.8 times from its 1940 level by 1945.

2. "Labor resources": After men went to the front during the war, women and young people became the main force in industry. In 1943, women made up 63.5% of industrial workers. Evacuated specialists helped train local personnel. 80% of collective farmers were women, and they occupied heavy professions.

3. "Local raw materials and resources": Uzbekistan's natural resources – cotton, oil, gas and minerals – provided the industry. The cotton industry increased the production of clothing for the front. The chemical industry was transferred to the production of fertilizers and explosives.

4. "Government policy and mobilization": The centralized policy, labor regime and strict discipline pursued by the USSR government transferred the industry to a military regime. The republic's leadership organized the placement and supply of enterprises. However, the shortage of raw materials and transportation difficulties became a problem.

5. "Social and demographic factors": Assistance to the evacuated population showed the resilience of the people. This strengthened social integration and expanded industrial centers. For example, new industrial cities appeared in the Fergana, Samarkand and Tashkent regions.

During the war, Uzbek industry supplied millions of products to the front: weapons, clothing and food. This strengthened the republic's economy, but led to environmental and social problems.

Literature analysis. The existing literature on the topic was formed mainly based on research conducted during the Soviet era and the years of independence. In scientific works



created during the Soviet era, historical processes were interpreted based on Marxist methodology, in which economic and industrial issues were often covered within the framework of an ideological approach. In particular, the works of the famous historian B. Gafurov comprehensively analyzed historical processes from the Timurid era to the eve of World War II. However, these studies provided limited information on the evacuation of industry and territorial changes in production during the war years, and this issue was considered a secondary topic.

In the studies conducted during the years of independence, a new and relatively objective approach to the topic is observed. In particular, A. Shirinov's work "The New History of Uzbekistan" covers in detail the processes of economic recovery after World War II, the restructuring of industry, and the role of evacuated enterprises in the economy of the republic. This study analyzes the long-term impact of the industrial infrastructure formed in Uzbekistan during the war years.

Foreign and domestic scientific articles on the topic are also an important source. In particular, the article "The Industry of Uzbekistan During the Second World War" (inLIBRARY) examines the development of heavy industries, the growth of production volumes, and the use of labor resources in wartime. The article "Obstacles in the Industrial Sector of Uzbekistan During the Second World War" (International Journal) examines the main problems that hindered industrial development - the shortage of raw materials, the limited transport infrastructure, and logistical difficulties - based on scientific analysis.

Of particular importance is the textbook by Uzbek author Bekzod Mamatkulov, which comprehensively covers the background of the development of Uzbek industry in 1925-1941 and analyzes it inextricably linked to the changes that occurred during the war. This approach allows us to understand the historical roots of industrial evacuation.

At the same time, there are some shortcomings in the existing literature. The limited availability of some archival documents, as well as the prevalence of political and ideological bias in Soviet-era research, make objective analysis difficult. Modern research, on the other hand, provides relatively objective assessments based on archival materials and new sources. However, the ecological consequences of industrialization during the war years and its impact on the environment have not yet been studied in sufficient depth, and this is one of the relevant areas for future scientific research.

**Results and conclusion.** During the war years, the industry of Uzbekistan developed rapidly as a result of the large-scale evacuation of industrial enterprises. In particular, the share of heavy industry increased significantly, and the republic became an important rear industrial base of the USSR. Evacuated plants and factories were put into operation in a short time on the territory of Uzbekistan, ensuring the production of products necessary for military and civilian needs. This process sharply increased the economic potential of the republic and initiated a new stage of industrialization.

A number of important factors influenced this development. First of all, modern technologies and production experience brought from the western regions accelerated the process of technological transfer. Also, the evacuated workforce, specialists and engineering and technical personnel, combined with local labor resources, ensured the stable operation of industrial production. In addition, the state's centralized economic policy, planning system and mechanisms for targeted resource allocation supported economic growth in wartime conditions.

As a result, by 1945, the volume of industrial production in Uzbekistan exceeded pre-war indicators. Many new enterprises and production facilities built during the war years continued to operate in peacetime, serving as a solid foundation for the further economic development of the republic. This indicates the decisive importance of the war years in the formation of Uzbekistan's industrial infrastructure.

At the same time, this period was not without serious problems. The shortage of raw materials and food, limited transport capabilities, and the worsening living conditions of the



population slowed down some areas of industrial development. Social difficulties, including the complexity of working conditions and demographic pressure, also had their impact on economic processes.

In short, the evacuation of industry during the Second World War became an important turning point in the economic development of Uzbekistan. This period formed the industrial and production base necessary for the republic to achieve economic independence in the future and provided important historical lessons for modern development processes.

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