Activities and Classification of the Uzbek National Press in the Years of the Second World War

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Annotation. This article discusses the reconstruction of the Uzbek national press in accordance with military conditions during the Second World War, as well as the classification of republican, regional and district newspapers. The achievements and shortcomings of the wartime press are revealed.

Keywords: Uzbek national press, World War II press, front-line newspapers, newspapers behind the front, Krasny Uzbekistan, Stalinskaya Pravda, Lenin's Way, Bukharaskaya Pravda.

Under Soviet rule, the press was the strongest and sharpest weapon in the hands of the Bolshevik government. During the Great Patriotic War, the role of the press in the life of society and the state increased even more and was enriched with new traditions. During the war years, the Soviet press, especially the Uzbek national press, also reorganized its work in accordance with the conditions of the war.

During the Great Patriotic War, front-line newspapers were published in national languages, including Uzbek. On the other hand, in the Union republics, including Uzbekistan, the civil press system was reorganized in accordance with the conditions of the war.

The need to publish newspapers in national languages and strengthen the activities of the local press in the Red Army units can be explained by the following reasons:

On June 22, 1941, Germany attacked the Soviet Union not only with aviation, tanks, submarines and infantry, but also launched an information-psychological war directed against the consciousness of the peoples of the union territory, against the psychology established by the Soviets.

Germany had already thoroughly prepared for the campaign against the USSR. In particular, on February 21, 1941, the propaganda department of the Wehrmacht discussed the tactics of ideological fragmentation of the Soviet population, taking into account its national characteristics.

Based on the study of the propaganda activities of the Nazis against the USSR, it should be said that during the entire period of the war with the Soviet state, Germany also waged an active information war, and that this struggle can be divided into 4 periods:

The first period - June 1941 - July 1942. During this period, Nazi propaganda was aimed at justifying fascist aphasia and criticizing the Soviet order.

The second period - July 1942 - January 1943. In order to increase the effectiveness of Nazi activities during this period, propaganda consisted of using new means to convince the Red Army soldiers to stop resistance and surrender to German captivity.

The third period - January 1943 - November 1944. During this period, the slogans of the anti-Soviet "Russian Liberation Army", consisting of captured Soviet soldiers, were used for propaganda purposes.

The fourth period - January 1944 - May 1945 Campaigns were carried out aimed at stopping the Red Army's offensive against Germany.

The most important types of German psychological warfare against the USSR were printed and visual propaganda tools: newspapers, magazines, leaflets, brochures, posters, and wall newspapers.
In the territories of the Soviet Union occupied by Germany and its allies, the periodical press, whose main activity was anti-Soviet propaganda, continued until the last days of the war. By August 8, 1942, their total number reached 140. In total, 260 newspapers and magazines were published in the territory occupied by German troops. Such periodicals were published on the territory of all the occupied republics - Belarus, Moldova, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine. Newspapers of the German occupation were published in Russian, Ukrainian, Belarusian, Moldavian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Estonian and other languages of the peoples of the USSR, among which Russian-language newspapers occupied a special place. In particular, the Nazis said: "Workers of all countries, fight, fight Bolshevism!" according to information given in the newspaper Pravda, published under the slogan, Adolf Hitler issued an order to carry out land reform in the Russian territories liberated from Soviet oppression. Particular emphasis was placed on the content of this reform: "... a long-awaited reform for tired Russian peasants who must appreciate the significance of this great gift of Adolf Hitler to the peasantry."

Under the reform, collective farms will be abolished, and the order of communal farms will be established, which is a stage in the transition of peasants to individual farming.

In its content, the press organized by the fascists was aimed at strong propaganda against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism, and on the pages of the newspaper one could see that the people living in the territories occupied by the Germans allegedly lived peacefully and plentifully tried to show. In the most difficult period of the war for the Soviets, some units of the captured Red Army, under the leadership of their officers, began to cooperate with the Nazis. It is known that the "Russian Liberation Army" (ROA) and similar anti-Soviet formations were formed from captured Soviet soldiers under the leadership of General A. A. Vlasov. From the autumn of 1941, the Soviet leadership began to receive reports that former Red Army soldiers who were in German captivity were creating a military organization to fight the Stalinist regime.

On the other hand, the repressive policies of the Soviet government led by Stalin in the 1920s and 1930s throughout the Union, the violence and bloodshed committed during this period, were very beneficial for the German press. Because a lot of people suffered from this policy on the territory of the union.

Based on the above reasons, it is not difficult to understand how necessary it was for the Soviet government to create a strong press system that could rally the people against the enemy and withstand the information attacks of the Nazis during the war.

As a result, the Central Committee of the CPSU decided to publish Uzbek, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Tajik, Georgian and Armenian newspapers, magazines and brochures on all fronts, taking into account the fact that most of the soldiers who went to the front from Central Asia and the Caucasus did not know the Russian language. Talented journalists and writers of the national republics have been mobilized to carry out this work. Nazir Safarov, Mirzakalon Ismaili, Rustam Abdurakhmanov, Jalalkhan Azizkhanov, Mumtoz Mukhamedov, Tolkin Rustamov, Meli Joraev, Ziya Aminov and Nazarmat Egamnazarov were among those mobilized from Uzbekistan at that time.

Directives of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR and the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks of June 29, 1941 and the Main Directorate of Political Propaganda of the Workers 'and Peasants' Red Army (RKKA) of June 23, 1941, especially the directives of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks of 1942. Legal basis The decree “On the strengthening of socio-political work in military units” of June 12 served as the basis for the establishment of front-line newspapers.

Of course, the front-line and republican newspapers operating during the war years were assigned a number of tasks, conditions and obligations.
In particular, the analysis of the article "Combat tasks of local newspapers", published in the issue of the newspaper "Lenin Yoli" dated July 4, 1943, shows that the conditions of the war set the following tasks for the Soviet press:

- Every day explaining the goals of the Patriotic War, kindling the fire of hatred for the enemy, inciting domestic workers to selfless work, providing ever greater support to the front;
- Always write about the situation on the fronts of the Patriotic War, about the heroism of Soviet people in the field of labor, do not underestimate the difficulties and hardships that may arise, inspire people in the spirit of the glorious patriotic traditions of the "great Russian people" and other peoples of the USSR and educate in the spirit of courage, in the spirit of deep love for the native land, its culture, language, literature and art;
- Strengthening the vigilance of the Soviet people, waging a resolute struggle against carelessness and indifference, complacency and pride in achievements;
- Ensuring that the language of newspaper articles is understandable, clear, complete and fluent;
- Tell vividly and interestingly about the heroic struggle of the Soviet people, deeply and seriously shed light on the rich experience of this struggle at the front and within the country;
- To increase the organizational activity of the newspapers, i.e., to increase the output of military products, to improve the quality of goods, to carry out strict cost savings, to train new workers, to strengthen labor discipline, to intensify production work on collective farms and state farms;
- Taking into account the fact that the press cannot perform the above tasks directly by the efforts of some employees working in newspapers, relying in this work on the help of the general public, training correspondents from among the workers and peasants and improving the system of wall newspapers through them;
- Increase the spirit of criticism on the pages of the press, in general, in any way leading to victory over the enemy.

In total, during the war years, 16 front-line newspapers were published in the Uzbek language, including “Forward against the enemy”, “For the Motherland”, “Red Army”, “Suvorovchi”, “Truth of the Red Army”, “Bong”, there were such newspapers as “For the Honor of the Country”, “Soviet Fighter”, “Front of Khakikatia”, “Victory Banner”, “Natsky Suvorov”, “Forward to Victory”.

During the Great Patriotic War, a large group of Uzbek press secretaries joined the ranks of the front-line press. He played a big role in the education and training of fighters, increasing their fighting spirit, promoting and encouraging achievements and feats in battle.

The beginning of a long war as a result of the attack of Germany and its allies on the territory of the Soviet Union caused serious changes in the system of the Soviet press. Certain changes have also taken place in the system of the civil press.

Changes in the printing system in the Uzbek SSR began to be implemented even before the start of the war. These changes were related to the administrative reforms and other processes carried out in 1941. As a result, the activities of some newspapers promoting the Soviet idea and areas associated with this idea were terminated. For example, in the city of Namangan - "Children of Lenin" (completed in April 1941), in the city of Termez - "Pioneer Fire", in the city of Tortkol of the Karakalpak Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic - "Soviet Mugalls", "Zhas Leninshi", “Zhetsinshk” (“Avlod”) and Kuibyshev regional newspapers such as “Socialist Curulus” were closed.

The Second World War dramatically changed the direction of the press in Uzbekistan, as well as in all the union republics. As a result of the processes connected with the war, the civil press networks in the republic were reduced and replaced by military newspapers. The number of central newspapers by industry has been reduced. Reduced not only the number of newspapers, but also their circulation. Republican, regional and district newspapers are published five times a week, regional newspapers -
once a week. In 1941, the activities of 7 republican newspapers were temporarily suspended. The decrease in the total number of publications in the press and one-time print runs was mainly due to a decrease in the stock of visible paper.

In connection with changes in the printing system, a total of 131 newspapers were published in the Uzbek SSR until January 1, 1942, of which 108 were in Uzbek, 15 in Russian, 4 in Kazakh, 3 in Karakalpak, 1 in Tajik. Of the newspapers published, 9 were nationwide, among them Kyzyl Uzbekiston, Yosh Leninchi, Lenin Uchkuni, Yangi Hayot, Teachers in Uzbek. In addition to the newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekiston", the publication of republican newspapers in the Uzbek language was temporarily suspended during the war.

The function of the newspaper of the first level, published in the Uzbek language, was performed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, the Tashkent regional committee, city committees and the organ of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR - the newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekiston". The editorial office of the newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekistan" included the following departments:

1) Department of propaganda and agitation;
2) department of party life;
3) Ministry of Agriculture;
4) Department of Industry;
5) Department of Letters;
6) Local information department.

In connection with the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, the circulation of newspapers in Kyzyl Uzbekistan also decreased. If in 1941 the circulation of the newspaper was 84,888 copies, then in 1942 it was reduced to 72,250 copies.

The newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekistan" together with the newspaper "Pravda Vostoka" was continuously delivered to the front. For example, the allocation of 500 copies. newspapers "Pravda" and 250 copies. newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekistan" for the 12th Guards Rifle Division in accordance with Decree No. 388 of March 17, 1942 of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. UzKP(b) will be instructed. Since 1943, 13,000 copies of the Kyzyl Uzbekistan newspaper and 4,000 copies of the Pravda Vostoka newspaper have been donated to the active army.

The newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekistan" was very well connected with the front. The newspaper published many articles about the heroism and courage of the Soviet people on the front line, especially the Uzbek fighters. Combat episodes in the newspapers, the heroism of Uzbek fighters, poems glorifying heroism and patriotism were considered amateur fighters on a par with front-line reporters. Many fighters sent their stories and poems inspired by what they saw to the newspaper editors. The analysis of letters sent from the front to the editorial office of the newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekistan" in the R-1735 fund of the National Archives of Uzbekistan, and the answers to them prove the above.

For example, in response letters sent to the editorial office of the newspaper by employees of the party life and propaganda department of the editorial office, they were asked to write more episodes about how Uzbek and other national fighters fought on the fronts against the Nazi invaders. their courage and heroism. The newspaper "Kizil Uzbekiston" also carried out the task of coordinating the activities of other regional and district newspapers of the republic.

In each region of the republic there were newspapers that were organs of the regional organizing bureau of the CP (b), the city party committee, the regional organizing committee of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the city council of working people's deputies,. Regional newspapers also had the task of coordinating regional newspapers within their territory. During the Great Patriotic War, the following regional and city newspapers operated in the regions. For example, in Tashkent - "Stalin's
Bann"er (at the city level), in Namangan - "Stalin's Truth", in Andijan - "Communist", in Fergana - "Commune", in Samarkand - "Lenin's Road", in Bukhara - "Bukhara pravda", in Khorezm - "Khorezmi Khakikiti", in Surkhandarya - "For the Sake of Surkhan", in Kashkadarya - "Kashkadarya Khakikiti" (in 1943 transformed into a regional newspaper) in the Uzbek language.

On the eve of the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, press organs of the Communist Party and executive committees operated in almost all regions of Uzbekistan. These newspapers published articles about government decisions and their content, the social and cultural life of the regions, agricultural work on collective farms and state farms, and other issues.

According to the list of newspapers published by the Republican Statistical Office of the Uzbek SSR, during 1941 the following regional newspapers were published in Uzbek:

- in the Tashkent region: "Stalinchi" in Okkorgan, "Okhangaron reality" in Okhangaron, "Bolshevik" in Begovot, "Kolkhoz zheviya" in Kalinin, "Kolkhoz mekhnati" in Mirzachol, "Drummer cotton grower" in Ordzhonikidze. in Piskent - "Fight for Cotton", in Parkent - "Surat", in Orta-Chirchik - "For Molkhosil", in the Syrdarya - "Red Star", in Khovost - "Labor Road", in Chinoz - "Lenin's Banner", on the new road - "New Road";


- in Namangan region: in Kosonsoy - "Stalinichi", in Norin - "Pakhtachi", in Pope - "Kolkhoz yoli", in Torakorgon - "for productivity", in Uychi - "for socialism", Uchko in Rgon - "Stalinskaya road", in Chust - "Stalin's road", in Yangikurgan - "from the Lenin road";

- in Andijan region: in Oyim district - "Bolshevik for collective farms", in Balykchy - "Cotton victory", in Oltinkol - "For Bolshevik collective farms", in Voroshilovsky - "Fight for cotton", in Jalakuduk - "Uchkun", in Izbosk - "Bolshevik", in the Leninsky district - "Leninchi", in Markhamat - "Voice of the Stalinists", in Pakhtaabad - "Photo of the Bolsheviks", in the Stalinsky district - "Stalinchi", in Khojabad - "Bolshevik for collective farms";

- in the Samarkand region: in the Okdarya region - "Cotton victory", in Bulungur - "Collective farm reality", in Zhomboy - "To a stately life", in Gallaorol - "For grain", in Jizzakh - "Socialism - the way" whether ", in Zomin - "Victory of the Collective Farm", in Kattakurgan - "The Truth of Kattakurgan", in Karadarya - "October Spark", in the Mitansky District - "From the Road of Stalin", in Narpai - "Red Narpay", in Nurota - "Stalinchi", in Poyarike - "Bolshevik Road", in the Forishsky district - "Paris Commune", in Pastdargam - "Voice of Collective Farmers", in the Pakhtakorsky District - "Uchkn", in Urgut - "Urgutskaya Pravda", in Khatyrych - "Cotton Farmer";


- In the Karakalpak ASSR: in the Kypchak region - "The Road of Socialism", in Tortkol - "The Victory of Communism".

As a result of the reorganization of the Kashkadarya region on January 20, 1943, newspapers of the Beshkent, Koson, Karshi, Kitab, Chirakchi, Shahrishabz, Yaklikabg and Dehkhanabad regions began to be published within the Kashkadarya region.

In the press system of the Uzbek SSR, during 1942, 45 separate regional newspapers and regional newspapers were closed. As a result of these changes, in 1942, 87 newspapers were published in the republic, 69 of them in the Uzbek language.

During 1943, newspapers closed in 1942 were revived in the following areas: among others, regional newspapers such as "Yangiyol" in the Tashkent region, "Kolkhoz Udarnigi" in Fergana, "Stalinchi" in Samarkand, "Kyzyl Denov" in Surkhandarya was revived. In the Kashkadarya region, the newspaper "Kashkadarya Pravda" was founded in Russian. The newspaper "Kashkadarya hakigiti", published in the Karshi region, was transformed into a regional newspaper.

The topics of the articles published in the newspapers of 1941-1945 are distinguished by their connection with the interests of the front. The published articles were directly and indirectly related to the interests of the war.

The following types of information were given in the front-line newspapers of the republic:
- Sovinformburo reports - news about the victory or defeat over the enemy, captured territory, captured weapons, items, the number of prisoners, etc. were published daily on the pages of republican, regional and district newspapers;
- orders of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, laws and government decrees;
- events taking place in countries outside the Soviet Union;
- achievements and shortcomings in agriculture - critical articles about the achievements and shortcomings in the cultivation of cotton, sugar beets, cereals, tobacco and other crops necessary for war are given a large place on the pages of the newspaper;
- the issue of the use of local resources - due to military conditions, the import of products to Uzbekistan was stopped, food resources were assigned to the Red Army, there are reports of the effective use of local opportunities to increase the food base and products which were lacking in the industry from time to time in the press.
- on the pages of newspapers, a special place is given to information about the military field and heroism in battles. In particular, the direct use of military weapons and their combat.

During the Great Patriotic War, the press of Uzbekistan bears a great responsibility for the consistent implementation of plans for the development of cotton growing in our republic. In particular, it is necessary for all press workers in the republic to strengthen relations with the public, enrich the content of our press, and increase its effectiveness.

In the Andijan region, the press organ of the Izboskan region, the Bolshevik newspaper, showed positive results in the development of cotton growing. In this newspaper, for the first time, the experiments of Kurban father Nurmatov, grain harvester Isomiddin Arabov, Abubakir father Khaidarov and others whose names are known throughout the republic were written.

Not all newspapers of the republic worked positively. During the war years, propaganda and propaganda work, which is recognized as the lifeblood of the newspaper, was not carried out at the same level. This process was especially covered in regional newspapers. In particular, in the issue of
the newspaper "Stalinskaya Pravda" dated January 14, 1943, it is noted that the newspaper "Lenin Yoli", published under the editorship of K. Toraboev from the Yangi-Kurgan region, conducted propaganda and propaganda poorly. During 1942, only 2 simple articles on propaganda and agitation were published in the newspaper. Not a single article aimed at promoting the experience of collective farmers has been published.

In the newspaper "Kyzyl Uzbekiston" for 1944, M. Bobosh's article "Unnoticed Newspapers" describes in detail the situation in the field of printing in the Kakhadarya region. According to the analysis of the article,
- the newspaper "Galaba", published in the Kitab region, was not published 4 times when it was necessary to strengthen the spring plowing and sowing;
- The editorial work was also superficially organized in the newspaper "Stalin bayrogi", the party organ and the executive committees of the Shakhrisabz region;
- The newspaper "Kolkhozchi" of the Chirakchi region has not been published for 5 months without the appointment of a responsible editor.

This situation was noticed not only in the Kitab and Shakhrisabz regions, but also in almost all regional newspapers of the Kashkadarya region. Critical articles are rarely published in newspapers. Propaganda activities did not intensify.

In conclusion, based on the above considerations, the following was determined in the system of the Uzbek national press during the Second World War:

During the Second World War, front-line newspapers were created in the system of the national press, and the front-line press was reorganized based on the needs of the war;
During the war years, on the one hand, he was able to resist the strong ideological struggle of the Nazis, and on the other hand, he was able to create a powerful press system to unite the peoples of the Union, who were disillusioned with the Soviet government against the enemy. The Uzbek national press also played an important role in this respect;
With the beginning of the war, many newspapers were closed due to the lack of paper sources in the civil press and for other reasons. The annual number and circulation of newspapers has been reduced;
During the Great Patriotic War, achievements and victories at the front were covered in the newspapers primarily in connection with the name of Supreme Commander-in-Chief Stalin. During the period under review, the cult of personality increased enormously. After all, 16 newspapers in the system of the Uzbek national press of Uzbekistan were associated with the name of Stalin;
During the Great Patriotic War, the main task of the local press was to fight for strengthening the country's support for the front, for using all the energy and means of the people to defeat the enemy, and for mobilizing the masses to work more intensively;
The main place in the newspapers was occupied by the spirit of propaganda and agitation, criticism. However, the true causes of the problems have not been identified.
Taking into account the foregoing, it should be said that during the war years the Uzbek national press was a very important factor in the victory over the enemy, in raising the spirit of patriotism and unity of the working people. After the hardships of the war, he again rose in his development.

The editors of Stalinskaya Pravda established a traveling newspaper, Za Khlopkoy. The editors of Stalinskaya Pravda created a mobile newspaper, Za Khlopkom, timed to coincide with the sowing date. The editorial office of the Sayyor newspaper published the first issue of the newspaper in the Uchkurgan region, which lags behind in field work. It highlights the experiences of the best tractor drivers, who are criticized by some lagging teams.
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