

Activities of Sharof Rashidov as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Council (1950-1959)

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Abstract: This article examines the activities of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR in the 1950s. The author provides information on the history of the formation of the Supreme Council, its legal basis, and its Presidium. It also analyzes the social and political activities of Sharof Rashidovich Rashidov, who served as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR from 1950 to 1959. During the study period, attention was paid to the contradictions in the relations "Center-Republic", as well as changes in public administration.

Keywords: governing body, Supreme Council, Communist Party, Council of Ministers, Presidium, Board, President, Councils, session, executive committees, citizens' appeals.



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In the development of any society or country, the organs of state administration and their effective work are of great importance. For this reason, the system of this society can be assessed depending on the place and position of state power in the system of administration. During the years of Soviet power, under the slogan "all power to the Soviets" and "striving" for the principles of democratic division of power, first the All-Union Council of Soviets and then the Supreme Council were created.

It should be noted that following the "democratic principles" in the organization of the highest governing bodies in the Soviet Union did not imply the existence of another institution acting independently of the Supreme Soviet. For this reason, there was a need for a permanent governing body accountable to the Supreme Soviet. As a result, the highest governing body of the Union was created - the Presidium. All republics have a federal system of governance.

Thus, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR was the highest state body, continuously operating in the period between sessions of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR. The Presidium is collegial in nature and is formed from the chairman, his two deputies, a secretary and thirteen members elected from among the deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR.

The activities of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR are inextricably linked with the activities of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR. Individual tasks within the competence of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR were decided by the Presidium in the intersessional period. But all actions of the Presidium had to be approved by the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR.

Although the powers of the Chairman of the Presidium were not reflected in the Constitution of the Uzbek SSR, his position in state administration was very high. Looking at the history of governance of the Uzbek SSR, many of the first political leaders of the republic: A. Niyazov (1947-1950s), Sh. It is clear that the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet was Rashidov (1950-1959), I. Usmanhodjaev (1978-1983), R. Nishonov (1986-1988).

In some studies of this period, the name of the president was used in parallel with the term of office of the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Russian scientist G. Petrov equated the powers of the Chairman of the Presidium with the presidency [1, pp. 5-6]. When in 1950 the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan, Amin Ermatovich Niyazov, was nominated as a deputy of the Union Council, the word "president" was also placed before his name: "Comrade Niyazov, the president of our republic, is in close contact with the public and pays great attention to the demands of the workers"[2]. Российский историк Ф. Раззоков, этнический узбек, признает Ш. Сайдакбар Ризаев обращает внимание на то, что Ш. Рашидов был самым молодым (33 года) президентом[4, С.16].

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, on the proposal of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan, has the right to dismiss ministers and appoint new ones, convenes sessions of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR twice a year. "The powers of the Presidium were especially broad in matters of state building. It defined the powers of the central state bodies in the field of national economy, socio-cultural construction, organized ministries and departments" [5, - p. 207].

The candidate for the post of Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet was recommended mainly by the first political leader of the republic. The fact that the candidacy of the head of the legislative body was nominated by the Communist Party pursued political interests. Because the head of the Supreme Soviet subsequently acted entirely within the framework of party goals. Speaking at the plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan held in April 1950, U. Yusupov proposed electing Sh. Rashidov as a member of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and nominated him for the post of president. Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Uzbek SSR [6, B.58].

At the meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR on April 24, 1950, the Resolution "On the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR" was discussed, and in connection with the transfer of A. Niyazov to another job, Sh. Sharof Rashidov's 9-year career as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet served as a "springboard" for him to become the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan [8, p. 84]. Professor Donald Carlisle responded to the appointment of Sharof Rashidov as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet as follows: "Although the prestige of this position was not very high, it meant Sh. Rashidov's rise up the career ladder" [9, p. 106].

As Sh. His first meeting as Chairman of the Presidium was held on May 16, 1950 and was devoted to this issue [10, vol. 41]. The low level of sessions in local councils of Uzbekistan, the incompetence of their personnel were one of the main shortcomings of the Supreme Council. In the issue of the newspaper "Izvestia", published in Moscow at the all-Union level on April 26, 1950, the activities of local councils in the Uzbek SSR were criticized: "Of the 2453 decisions of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR adopted in 1949, only four concern organizational issues of local councils. Nevertheless, insufficient attention is paid to the implementation and control of decisions taken on organizational issues.

At the first meeting chaired by Rashidov, the activities of the leadership of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR and the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR were analyzed, and attention was drawn to a number of shortcomings. In particular, in 1949, 21 sessions were convened instead of 36 sessions of regional councils, 379 sessions instead of 789 sessions of

district councils, 112 sessions instead of 324 sessions of city councils were criticized [11, v. 41]. Until 1955, out of 1,680 local councils of the republic, 1,100 violated the terms for convening a session established by the Constitution. By 1956, the situation had changed for the better: there were only 80 such councils [12, v. 247].

Sharof Rashidov began to resolve the socio-economic problems that had accumulated in the republic from the first days of his work as chairman of the presidium. In the process of working with appeals from citizens of the Uzbek SSR on various issues, his talent as a mature leader and organizer was formed. On November 14, 1950, teachers and employees of the public education department of the Gallaorol district of the Samarkand region sent a collective appeal to Sh. Rashidov.

The letter notes that in more than 30 schools in the district, 5-6 students sit per desk, and also notes that in most schools there are only 10-15 desks per 280 children. District schools are proposed to be allocated 500 desks [13, v. 154]. Later, Sharof Rashidov consulted with the leadership of the Ministry of Education of the Uzbek SSR on this issue and achieved the delivery of 500 desks from Astrakhan and Tyumen [13, v. 152].

The above situation shows serious shortcomings of the Soviet management system. Firstly, in the early 1950s, the production of desks in Uzbekistan was not established, or although it was produced, it did not meet the needs of the republic. As in many areas, Uzbekistan depends on other republics or the Center for the provision of basic educational equipment. On the other hand, the situation in the leadership was so conflictual that the “insignificant” needs of the republic required personal intervention and requests from the head of the republic. Sharof Rashidov tried to resolve as many requests as possible. He worked hard to find positive solutions to many socio-economic problems that worried the people. “Thousands of people turned to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Council, and it depended only on him (Sharif Rashidov) and his staff whether they would receive the long-awaited help or not. Although he did not have the opportunity to change the fate of people, many returned satisfied with the reception of Sharof Rashidov” [5, p. 16].

As a result of dependence on the center in financial matters, as in all areas, the republic could not freely use its internal economic resources and means. For example, on March 14, 1954, a collective appeal was sent by workers of the city reserve in Samarkand (signed by 41 people). In their appeal, they wrote that they still grow agricultural products on 70 hectares of land using plows. For this reason, they asked to allocate 1 tractor [14, v. 10]. After this, on March 24, 1954, by order of Sh. Rashidov, a letter was written to the State Planning Committee with an order to allocate 1 tractor. However, the letter from the State Planning Committee dated April 8, 1954 states that tractors were allocated to ministries and organizations for 1954, and there was no opportunity to allocate tractors for the workers of Samarkand [14, v. 8].

During Sh. Rashidov's work as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR from 1950 to 1959, the Presidium's style of work changed and began to take its place in the republic's governance system. He tried to radically improve the Presidium's work in considering citizens' appeals. As a leader, he demanded that the Presidium members eliminate such negative vices as bureaucracy and censorship, as well as strictly adhere to this method of work.

Thus, the activities of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR have significantly intensified, and the quality of its work has improved. It should be noted separately that Sharof Rashidov correctly perceived the criticism of the shortcomings in the work of the Presidium and tried to correct them. In this regard, one can take as an example the Republican Council of Executive Committees of Local Soviets of Working People's Deputies of the Uzbek SSR, which took place in Tashkent on June 6, 1955. At this meeting of the republic, the heads of the executive committees created an opportunity for them to state the shortcomings in the activities of the

Presidium. The participants of the Council criticized the fact that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR, the Council of Ministers of the republic and some ministries do not provide sufficient support in the practical work of local Soviets and executive committees, do not deal with issues of studying, summarizing and disseminating their positive work experience, and sometimes do not quickly resolve issues raised at the local level [15, v. 192].

The shortcomings associated with the activities of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, raised at this meeting of the republic, were soon eliminated. Sh. At the meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR on April 23, 1956, chaired by Rashidov, the issue of "Measures to improve the work of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR and its apparatus" was included in the agenda. . " It defined measures to improve the work of the Presidium apparatus [16, v. 97].

This method of work, positive changes in the activities of the Presidium, were certainly directly related to the personality of Sh. Rashidov. The person who worked as the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic had to work tirelessly, under enormous pressure, use his full potential, and if necessary, spend all his strength and nerves on this. "... Sh. Rashidov tried to do this, and it soon became clear that this was a unique feature of personal qualities, ideas, style of work, not typical of officials, but manifested in respectful treatment of people" [5, pp. 15-16].

Thus, the activity of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR in the 1950s of the twentieth century is characterized by dynamic changes. During this period, positive changes were observed in the work of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan, it began to acquire a special position in public administration. This process was associated with the leadership, organization, leadership and diplomatic activities of the Chairman of the Presidium Sharof Rashidov, as well as his unique style of work. This style of work embodied humanity, fairness, hard work, sincerity and a number of other personal qualities. On the other hand, Sharof Rashidov's 9-year work as the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet made him a mature politician and statesman, aware of the most pressing problems of the republic and becoming well-known in the political circles of the Center. Later, this factor affected his legitimate respect and attention of the people during his many years of service as the first political leader (First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan).

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