

Border And Territorial Problems of Uzbekistan at The Current Stage

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Abstract: This article provides a scientific analysis of the policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on delimitation and demarcation of borders with neighboring Central Asian countries during the years of independence, mechanisms for resolving territorial and border issues, agreements between states, enclaves and their status. The policy of the Republic to improve the conditions at border checkpoints with neighboring countries has also been considered through a comparative analysis of the literature.

Keywords: Central Asia, enclave, delimitation, demarcation, Fergana valley, border, frontier, agreement, negotiation, territory, plot, ethnos, nation, conflict.

Introduction

In his speech at the international conference "Central Asia: common history and common future, cooperation for sustainable development and historical development" held in Samarkand on November 10, 2017, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev said: We will create a solid foundation for further expansion of cooperation between our countries in trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian spheres. We believe that it is necessary to continue our well-thought-out and well-thought-out work to resolve the complex issues that have arisen in the negotiations on the delimitation of state borders. I believe that we will solve this very urgent problem quickly, based on reasonable compromise and mutual agreement, taking into account our mutual interests [1, p. 271]. From the above considerations, it is clear that one of the most important and urgent issues between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Central Asian states is the completion of demarcation and delimitation in the border areas with neighboring republics.

Literature Analysis, Discussion And Results.

The historical roots of the Republic of Uzbekistan's border and territorial problems with neighboring countries go back to the Soviet era. The principle of the Uzbek, Tajik, Turkmen, Kyrgyz, Kazakh and Karakalpak peoples, who were indigenous peoples, was not sufficiently taken into account in the national-territorial delimitation of Central Asia in 1924. territorial division was not allowed. As a result, the national-territorial delimitation was not based on the mentality and will of the local people, but on the orders and instructions of the Center. As a result, the event became so complex and controversial that a new wave of geopolitical demographic problems emerged, which later led to negative consequences. The border line was drawn from the area where the population of the same ethnic group was the largest and the largest percentage, and the lifestyle of the nomadic and semi-nomadic population was not taken into account. As the clashes and conflicts escalated, measures were taken to redistribute the territory of one province or district among the Republics, and to officially register the enclaves. Conflicts have arisen as a result of redistribution processes, such as the transfer of Surkhandarya to Tajikistan and the transfer of Khojand to Uzbekistan. Proponents of "Greater Uzbekistan" and "Little Tajikistan" have emerged, and debates have begun over whether Turkmenistan's Charjou (now Lebap) Dashoguz region and South-West Kazakhstan should be part of the "Greater Uzbekistan". . There were also proposals and demands for the annexation of Southern Uzbekistan, Bukhara and Samarkand regions to the Tajik SSR. There have been disputes between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan over the Chorjoi region. Turkmenistan has objected to Tajikistan, while

Kyrgyzstan has objected to Uzbekistan on territorial and border issues. Relations between the Central Asian republics, which were the subject of a border conflict during the entire Soviet era, were not resolved positively. As a result, an attempt was made to resolve the issue of territories in the enclaves by organizing districts in such places. For example, Sukh district was established in 1955 as part of the Fergana region. The district is located in the Batken region of the Kyrgyz Republic and covers an area of 325 sq / km. The current population is 52,000, and more than 90% of the population is Tajik. The highway leading to the district is controlled by Kyrgyzstan from the west. The majority of the population of Sokh district in Uzbekistan is Kyrgyz. The Kyrgyz-Tajik border (990 km long) runs through the mountains, and in 1958 a special commission was unable to resolve the border issue between the states [3, p. 21].

Territorial and border problems in Central Asia are a heavy legacy of the Soviet Union. In the last years of Soviet rule (1989-1991), ethno-national clashes intensified in various parts of the country, and even bloody clashes took place between nations. The difficult economic and social situation in Uzbekistan and neighboring republics has led to a number of ethno-territorial, border-territorial conflicts. The epicenter of the conflict is the Fergana Valley, which is densely populated and has low living standards, high unemployment, rapid demographic growth, growing social problems, water shortages, land shortages, and poor pastures. The debates had an impact on border-territorial conflicts. In particular, the demarcation and demarcation of the border between the states of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in the existing enclaves in the Fergana Valley (8 enclaves, 10 disputed zones) is a pressing issue. Each state approached the issue from its own position and ideology, arguing that "moving the borders one step back or forward, changing the historically formed border line, will lead to consensus and national conflicts."

In the last decade of the twentieth century, a number of political processes, national and ethnic realities, and even bloody clashes took place near the Uzbek-Kyrgyz, Uzbek-Tajik borders. The Osh massacre of 1990, the civil war and migration in Tajikistan in 1992-1997, the terrorist attack in Tashkent in February 1999. strengthening, strict control over the movement of the population from one Republic to another, a sharp increase in the number of border guards - 2, p. 469., 3, p. 26., 4, p. 142., 5, p. 28].

The Republic of Uzbekistan has tightened control over the Uzbek-Tajik and Uzbek-Kyrgyz border areas. Even after the events of February 1999, the Uzbek side mined the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border. Although the measure did not comply with international law, the Uzbek side reacted strongly to the spread of religious extremism and terrorism from Kyrgyzstan to Uzbek lands. Between 2001 and 2002, 13 people were tragically killed trying to cross the minefield without permission. In 2003, the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border was cleared of mines as a result of negotiations with international organizations. However, Uzbek-Kyrgyz border controls were soon tightened, with Kyrgyzstan believed to have played a role in the May 2005 riots in Andijan. During this period, there were Uzbek-Kyrgyz, Tajik-Kyrgyz conflicts and small-scale clashes in the enclaves over water, arable land, pastures and livestock. A special commission was set up on the Kyrgyz border in 1998 to begin delimitation and demarcation in 2002. There are 58 (according to some sources, 70) disputed plots of land on the Uzbek-Kyrgyz-Tajik border in the Fergana Valley, 49 of which have been delimited. The next round of talks took place in 2005-2011, and finally in 2011 reached 130.8 km of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border. from, a total agreement was reached at 984 km. However, the 304-kilometer border remains controversial. The Uzbek enclave (between the Tavagavosay rivers) that runs from the Kyrgyz village of Barak to Shohimardon remains controversial. The fact that the transport corridor to Sokh district (Fergana region) also crosses the borders of the neighbors, the low living standards of the population in this area, the rapid increase in population at the expense of migrants, endless social problems water, pastures clashes were repeated due to disagreements over issues. Concerns have been raised that small-scale clashes could escalate into ethno-national conflicts. The Kyrgyz-Tajik border is 990 km long, and although delimitation issues were raised during official talks in Osh in November 1997 and in Khojand (Sughd) in February 1998, in practice there were expected shifts. did not. The delimitation and demarcation of the borders began in practice in 2002, and by 2013, 990 km of this state border was only 550 km. reached a general agreement. The Vorukh enclave is disputed and was included in the jurisdiction of the Tajik SSR in 1929 and was officially documented in 1950 as the enclave of the Tajik SSR in Kyrgyzstan [4, p. 142-157]. The armed clashes between Kyrgyz and Tajik border guards in the enclave in late April 2021 still require much work to be done. The fact that not all problems on the Uzbek-Tajik border, as well as in the enclaves, have been resolved, and the task of delimitation and demarcation of borders between Central

Asian countries marked a new stage in strengthening integration processes by establishing good neighborly relations. President of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev has taken the initiative to create an atmosphere of friendly relations with neighboring countries in the foreign policy of Uzbekistan. From April 2016 to March 19, 2017, 10 intergovernmental meetings and talks were held on the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border. On March 19, 2017, an intergovernmental agreement was reached in 49 of the 58 disputed polling stations in Osh. Delimitation and demarcation measures are being carried out at these sites.

In September 2017, President of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev and Presidents of the Kyrgyz Republic signed an agreement on delimitation and demarcation of the two countries' borders. From the end of 2016 to October 2020, the two countries signed 30 official documents on border cooperation, expansion of bilateral trade, rational use of irrigation and water resources, transit opportunities, cooperation and interbank relations. In particular, the issue of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz state border was discussed at 31 meetings and councils with the participation of delegations of the two governments at various levels, 96 meetings of various working groups, 2 meetings of working groups on legal issues. passed. As a result of the above measures, a general agreement was reached on 95% of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border. The disputed area of Ungar-Too was occupied by Uzbek police during the first President of Uzbekistan, IA Karimov. In 2017, President Mirziyoyev summoned police and vacated the disputed area. That same year, Uzbek and Kyrgyz deputy prime ministers signed a memorandum on good neighborly strategy in Andijan.

In 2019, 413 hectares of land in the Arvan district of the Osh region of the Kyrgyz Republic were replaced by the same amount of land in Uzbekistan. In the fall of 2020, officials of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz intergovernmental commission, the council of border districts, and the mahalla council will be authorized to hold bilateral talks.

However, subsequent events have shown that interstate demarcation and delimitation is a complex and time-consuming process. In particular, on May 31, 2020 in the Sokh-Uzbek-Kyrgyz enclave, farmers of Chemi (Kadamjay district) of Kyrgyzstan and Chashma village (Sokh district) of Uzbekistan will agree on the distribution of water resources on the border of Batken region. and clashed with each other. 187 Uzbeks and 25 Kyrgyz were injured in the clashes, and one Kyrgyz died in hospital. On June 1, 2020, the two heads of government met at the Chemi vehicle checkpoint in Bokent province and resolved the issues through negotiations [4, p. 142].

Conclusion

So, Uzbekistan's task of delimitation and demarcation of borders with neighboring countries has not yet been completed. In particular, the enclaves in the Fergana Valley have long-standing problems. Even the border lines with the Republic of Kazakhstan along the Aral Sea have not been defined yet, and the issue of leasing the territory of Bostandiq district by Uzbekistan for 25 or 10 years has not been resolved. can also be noted.

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