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OR – Issue

QR - Article



**p-ISSN:** 2308-4944 (print) **e-ISSN:** 2409-0085 (online)

Year: 2020 Issue: 07 Volume: 87

**Published:** 30.07.2020 http://T-Science.org





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## THE REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL AND ITS ROLE IN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF THE TURKESTAN ASSR

Abstract: After the coup in October 1917, the Bolsheviks announced the abolition of the former imperial courts and the creation of the "most democratic and just" courts in the world. However, the normative documents on the new judiciary were hastily adopted and were full of contradictions. These documents, which did not meet the requirements of international law, served not the establishment of equality and law and order, but the ideas of class and "revolutionary" struggle. In this way, the judiciary was transformed into a punitive body of Soviet power. This article describes the activities of the revolutionary tribunals established by the Soviet authorities in the territory of the Turkestan ASSR in 1918-1922 on the basis of historical documents. The article also reveals the rise of various crimes among workers in the field and the state of anarchy in the system.

Key words: People's Commissariat of Justice, Soviet power, decree, emergency court, mobile court session, crime, imprisonment, fine, death penalty

Language: English

Citation: Komolov, D. P. (2020). The revolutionary tribunal and its role in the judicial system of the Turkestan ASSR. ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science, 07 (87), 312-320.

Doi: crosses https://dx.doi.org/10.15863/TAS.2020.07.87.61 **Soi**: http://s-o-i.org/1.1/TAS-07-87-61

Scopus ASCC: 1202.

### Introduction

**UDC 37.02** 

Judicial and legal reforms in independent Uzbekistan are based on constitutional principles such as the rule of law, equality of citizens before the law, the presumption of humanity, justice and innocence. In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev said: "Ensuring the inevitability of liability for interference in the constitutional norms on the independence of the judiciary and the administration of justice is an important guarantee of achieving our goals" [1, P.11.]. On the implementation of the Action Strategy on the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021, a number of normative and legal acts aimed at ensuring true independence and freedom of the judiciary, improving the quality and transparency of justice were adopted.

The roots of many problems in the judiciary date back to the Soviet era, when the independence of the judiciary was limited by party-state bodies. Therefore, the analysis of judicial policy during the Soviet era, an objective assessment of the activities of the judiciary, the study of its goals and objectives is one of the urgent tasks of history. Also, the study of the history of the formation of the Soviet legal system and the activities of the judiciary allows to objectively reveal the authoritarian nature of Soviet statehood, the stages of its formation and decision-making.

Thoughts on the history of the formation of the Soviet judicial system in TASSR are expressed in scientific publications on various issues of the history of Turkestan. From the scientific and conceptual point of view, the literature on the research topic can be divided into the following groups:

- Soviet research;



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- Research conducted during the years of independence;
  - -Works published by foreign authors.

Soviet-era research can be divided into two categories:

- Works written by representatives of the partystate apparatus in the 1920s;
  - Works published during 1930-1991.

It should be noted that the peculiarities of the judicial system of TASSR are reflected in the works of statesmen and public figures of the 1920s. In particular, the works of such authors as G.Safarov, N.Turakulov, T.Risqulov contain valuable factual materials about the Soviet judiciary [2]. In the early years of Soviet rule, there was no strict censorship, so the published cases provided an objective assessment and open criticism of the existing judicial system. For example, the chairman of the Turkestan Central Election Commission, Turor Ryskulov, has sharply criticized the work of the revolutionary tribunal and the emergency commission. As the author points out, these agencies abused their power under the pretext of fighting the enemies of the Soviet government and engaged in looting and illegal arms trade [3, p. 95.].

However, since the second half of the 1920s, the possibility of an objective assessment of the problem has been limited by higher authorities due to increased censorship. From that time on, the official concept aimed at falsifying and ideologicalizing the processes that took place in Turkestan in 1917-1924 in favor of the ruling class began to take shape. This is evidenced by the research of Soviet publications in the 40-80s of the XX century, in particular, M. Kozhevnikov, L. Krakhmalnik, I. Sadovnikov, K. Gorshenin, S. Bordonov [4-8]. The idea that Soviet courts are the fairest institutions in the world to protect the interests of workers is central to them. This idea was reflected in all research on the history of the judiciary.

The first special study directly related to the history of the formation of Soviet courts in Turkestan was conducted by H. Suleymanova [9]. In his doctoral dissertation, the author studied the formation and development of judicial bodies in TASSR. In this study, for the first time, the activities of the courts were systematically analyzed. However, under the influence of the dominant ideology, many aspects of the problem are not covered objectively. In particular, the role of the revolutionary tribunals in suppressing the armed resistance against the Soviet government was assessed as heroic, and there was no mention of any mistakes or problems.

Some aspects of the activity of the courts of the Turkestan ASSR are devoted to the history of the judicial system of the Central Asian republics A.Rasulov, Sh.Rozikov, B.Durdiev, M.Sapargaliev [10-13] or A.Gordienko, Sh.Urazaev, T.Inoyatov, B. Manelis, F. Bakirov, A. Azamkhodjaev in their research [14-19].

Nevertheless, these authors, thinking within the existing ideology, took a one-sided approach to the problem and sought to capture the conflicting and negative processes in the formation of the judiciary.

In general, an analysis of Soviet-era research on the formation of Soviet courts in Turkestan shows that although they have a rich factual source base, they are based on a one-sided approach, with the exception of the first published works of the 1920s due to repressive ideological pressure.

The first objective views on the history of the formation of the Soviet judicial system were put forward during the years of independence, in conditions of transparency. During the same period, historians published a number of works on the history of Turkestan in 1917-1924 on the basis of a new theoretical concept. A new concept of the history of this period has been developed by a number of authors. It is reflected in the monograph "Turkistan in the early twentieth century", edited by Rajabova[20]. It provided an in-depth and comprehensive analysis for the first time of the process of establishing Soviet power in the country, its policy in the socio-political, economic and cultural spheres, and introduced a large number of new sources into scientific circulation. Following this study, a number of works were published to shed light on the socio-political and economic processes that took place in Turkestan in 1917-1924. For example, D. Ziyaeva's monograph on the formation of the Bolshevik concept in the history of Turkestan, including the history of the national liberation struggle [21], K. Rajabov - the history of armed action against the Soviet regime [22], M. Haydarov - the policy of centralization of Soviet power [23], A. Ermetov - studied the activities of TASSR control bodies [24].

Some aspects of this problem have been highlighted and objectively evaluated in studies conducted by lawyer scholars. In particular, issues such as the activities of the Supreme Court[25] and the history of the establishment of the judiciary in Uzbekistan were studied[26]. These studies are distinguished by the fact that they are based on a conceptual-theoretical approach, based conclusions. However, in them the issue was considered only from a legal point of view and was connected with socio-political processes. However, the urgency of the problem requires its study in close connection with socio-political and economic reforms, a comprehensive coverage of the gradual development of the judicial system, noting the consequences and causes.

The history of the Turkestan ASSR has also been studied by foreign researchers, whose works have been described as a "falsification of history" during the Soviet era. For the first time in the works of such authors as O. Kerou[27], A. Park[28], B. Hayit[29], the socio-economic life of Turkestan was fully covered, the authoritarian nature of the Soviet



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government was revealed, but the activities of the judiciary were left out of their attention.

### 2.METHODS.

The article used comparative analysis and a systematic approach. This allowed the generalization and analysis of a large number of sources. Adherence to the principles of historicity and objectivity served to reveal complex, contradictory processes, one-sided, ideological conclusions of the authors of the published works of the Soviet era, an objective assessment of events and happenings in the conditions of confrontation of various political and ideological forces. The problem under consideration has been studied in close connection with the historical situation on the basis of the above-mentioned principles, the causes, purposes and consequences of this or that change have been revealed.

Modern views on building a democratic state based on civil society, the rules for creating a fair judiciary in the republic served as a theoretical basis for the study. At the same time, the scientific-theoretical, conceptual recommendations on the reform of the judicial system in the works of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev were of special value.

#### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS.

The colonial policy pursued by the Bolshevik government in Turkestan led to the emergence of an armed movement against the Soviet regime. Soviet people's courts were powerless to ensure the security of the dictatorial regime in such conditions. Therefore, the Soviet government saw the establishment of extraordinarily broad courts, which would ruthlessly punish any resistance movement, as the only way to achieve its goal. It was on this basis that revolutionary tribunals were formed.

On November 24, 1917, the first decree on the court, adopted by the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR, provided for the establishment of revolutionary tribunals. The trial of the revolutionary tribunal included crimes against the Soviet government, disobedience to the authorities, disobedience to orders, abuse of office by public servants, espionage, and the activities of traders and industrialists[30].

Although the order issued by the Council of People's Commissars of the Turkestan ASSR on December 12, 1917 was based on the first decree on the court, it did not provide for the establishment of revolutionary tribunals. However, the subsequent escalation of relations between the Turkestan Autonomy in Kokand and the Soviet government and the brutal bloodshed of the autonomists intensified the struggle against the Soviet government. Given the tense situation in Turkestan, the chairman of the All-Russian Emergency Commission (VChK) F. Dzerzhinsky sent a telegram to Tashkent on January

16, 1918, ordering the establishment of a body to combat counter-revolutionary movements. This issue was considered by the Tashkent Soviet, which adopted the Regulations on the Tashkent Revolutionary Tribunal. According to this charter, on February 21, 1918, the first tribunal was established in Turkestan[31]. Bolshevik V. Votintsev was elected to be its chairman. Tashkent-style tribunals were set up by all regional and city councils of Turkestan. In particular, on March 5, 1918, a revolutionary tribunal began its work in Ashgabat[32].

In 1918, the revolutionary tribunal operated without division into branches. The policy of repression became even more brutal as the struggle against Soviet power intensified. This is reflected in the establishment of specialized tribunals. In 1919 military and in 1920 railway tribunals were established. The military tribunal saw representatives of the military, while the railway tribunal saw crimes related to rail transport. In general, tribunals of all kinds served to strengthen the dictatorship of the ruling party and brutally punished its enemies.

In Turkestan, the Soviet authorities considered it necessary to establish a Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal to hear serious political crimes of republican significance. As a result, on September 14, 1918, the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR adopted a decree approving the Statute of the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal.

The charter stipulated that the chairman, two vice-chairmen and three members of the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal should be elected by the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR and that the candidates should be members of the Turkestan Communist Party. Communist K.E. Sorokin was elected as the first chairman of the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal.

The first trial of the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal was held from October 28 to November 2, 1918. There were 19 cases, 6 of which involved arms trafficking, 5 speculation, 2 counter-revolutionary movements, and the remaining 6 cases of misappropriation of public funds [33].

In any case, the revolutionary tribunals decided the case in favor of the Soviet government. The verdict of the revolutionary tribunals, which also had unlimited powers in the application of punishment, could not be appealed or cassated. The verdict was final and executed quickly. This fact alone shows that the tribunals aimed to protect the interests of the state, not the people.

Although the revolutionary tribunal was to hear crimes against the Soviet government and system of government, in practice it also accepted cases involving the people's courts. Moreover, the judgments rendered by these courts were unjust, and the establishment of a court of cassation to suspend, annul, or reconsider them was not specified in the statute of tribunals [34, p. 128.].



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Anarchy and abuse abounded in the activities of the revolutionary tribunals. The lack of a mechanism to control them paved the way for this. In one of his reports to the government, the People's Commissar for Justice, H. Ibragimov, stated that the number of erroneous verdicts of the revolutionary tribunals was extremely high [35].

Finally, on December 13, 1918, the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR adopted a directive on the conduct of proceedings in revolutionary tribunals[36]. This document set out the powers of the tribunal judge, the procedure for conducting the preliminary investigation and other similar procedures. The instructions also set out the procedure for reviewing the verdict of the revolutionary tribunal in cassation. A special commission has been set up under the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR to deal with this issue. If the People's Commissariat of Justice finds the tribunal's verdict to be unfair or unlawful, it submits it to a special panel for cassation, and it reviews the verdict and makes a decision[37]. But here another democratic principle is violated, the verdict is considered and decided by the administrative body of the state, not by a higher court. Eventually, the interests of the ruling party took precedence, leading to a decision as the Soviet government wanted.

In fact, not all of the verdicts handed down by the revolutionary tribunals were reported to the People's Commissariat of Justice, and it was not possible to control them at all. Thus, the activities of the emergency courts were characterized by lawlessness and chaos.

Every normative document adopted by the government of the RSFSR during this period required the Turkestan ASSR to harmonize its legislation. In particular, in accordance with the regulations adopted by the All-Russian Central Executive Committee on April 12, 1919, on May 6, 1919 the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR adopted two new regulations entitled "On the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal of Turkestan" and "On Regional Revolutionary Tribunals and its Departments"[38].

The new charter stipulated that the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal, as the supreme judicial body, should consider official and political crimes committed by government officials serving in the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR, the Council of People's Commissars of the Turkestan ASSR, as well as people's judges, investigators, and judges of regional tribunals.

The Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal could, by decision of the republican government, take any case from the people's courts, the provincial revolutionary tribunals, and its branches, and consider them as a court of first instance. The verdict of the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal was decisive and could not be appealed.

An important innovation in the charter was that the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal was given the right to review the judgments of the lower tribunals in cassation. For the first time since the revolutionary tribunals began their work in Turkestan, their verdicts were officially allowed to be appealed by a higher court.

A party dissatisfied with the verdict handed down by the provincial revolutionary tribunals and its divisions could appeal to the Supreme Revolutionary tribunal within a month. The Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal reviewed the appeal within two weeks and had the power to uphold or overturn the verdict.

In accordance with the Second Regulation on the Regional Revolutionary Tribunal and its Departments, local tribunals were abolished and regional tribunals were established in each region. A regional tribunal was set up in New Bukhara and Petro-Alexandrovsk, tasked with overseeing the counter-revolutionary movements of the Russian population in the Bukhara Emirate and the Khiva Khanate. In cities with a population of more than 200,000, the People's Commissariat of Justice, in agreement with the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal, was to establish branches of the regional revolutionary tribunal[39].

The composition of the Provincial Revolutionary Tribunal consists of a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman and three members, elected by the Provincial Executive Committee for a term of three months. The regional tribunal heard cases against the Soviet power and administration system in the relevant territory and issued a verdict on behalf of the RSFSR.

The procedure in the revolutionary tribunals provided for the restriction of human rights. In particular, the judge had the power to hear the case without the accuser and defense counsel. A tribunal judge, who was supposed to represent the interests of the dictatorial regime, was able to use such authority to pass a guilty verdict on a person in any case. That is why in the archival documents of this period the tribunals are mentioned not as a judicial body, but as a revolutionary punitive body.

In particular, at the VII Congress of Turkestan Soviets in March 1919, the chairman of the presidium PA Kobozev said: "Justice and revolution are completely opposite concepts. Justice is the norm of a peaceful life. This only applies when there are no struggle processes. Well, that's what emergency courts do. They are carrying out mass terror"[40, p.44]. As noted above, the revolutionary tribunals, the emergency judicial body in the territory of the Turkestan ASSR, used the broad powers vested in them to terrorize the people in a brutal manner. Corruption and various abuses were rampant among the staff of the revolutionary tribunal. S. Dorojkin, a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR, stated this on March 17, 1919: "The Revolutionary Tribunal and the Emergency



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Commission are not functioning normally, and their employees are taking bribes"[41].

On February 2, 1920, the Turkestan ASSR Central Exacutive Committee adopted a new regulation on the revolutionary tribunal[42]. This statute differed from the previous ones in a number of features. First, the Court of Cassation was established under the Central Exacutive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR. Previously, cassation appeals were considered by the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal, but now this authority has been transferred to the Court of Cassation. The escalation of violations in the revolutionary tribunals of the region and the growing number of public protests against the verdicts they passed led to the establishment of the Court of Cassation. Second, the time limit for filing a cassation appeal was reduced from 30 days to 48 hours, i.e., 2 days. The aim was to prevent and repress politically charged individuals. During this period, due to the improper organization of the exchange of information between the judicial authorities, citizens' cassation appeals did not reach the higher court in a timely manner and were not resolved positively. As a result, the convict's complaint went unanswered and he was punished. It can be concluded from this that although the Soviet government formally established a cassation instance to remedy the violations, it shortened the time limit for filing an appeal and in practice did not allow this institution to operate at full capacity.

Judges of the Court of Cassation were elected by the Central Exacutive Committee of the Turkestan ASSR. The regional tribunals were required to refer the case to the Cassation Tribunal within 24 hours of receiving the complaint, and the case was to be heard within a week[43].

The above was a theoretical analysis of the normative documents adopted by the Soviet government concerning revolutionary tribunals. An analysis of the case law shows that a more brutal picture emerged. In fact, the revolutionary tribunals pursued a policy of mass terror and repression.

Military tribunals were established in Fergana and Yettisuv in response to the escalation of the armed struggle against Soviet rule[44].

In May-June 1921, the Caspian Regional Tribunal heard 62 cases. Due to the predominantly semi-nomadic nature of the Turkmen tribes, mobile meetings of the regional revolutionary tribunal were organized in Tajan, Merv, Takhtabazar, and Kushka[45].

An investigation by the Syrdarya Regional Revolutionary Tribunal in July-August 1921 by Rachinsky, Kornevsky, and Bykov, investigators of the People's Commissariat of Justice, revealed that the investigation was erratic and resulted in incomplete and unfounded accusations[46].

On July 31, 1921, the chairman of the Yettisuv Provincial Revolutionary Tribunal addressed the

Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal stating that most of the tribunal's judges were incompetent or even illiterate[47]. The People's Commissariat of Justice had complained to the provincial revolutionary tribunal that it was limited to sending orders, receiving reports, and failing to provide practical assistance to remedy the problems.

The situation in Samarkand region was even worse. On May 30, 1922, the chairman of the regional revolutionary tribunal, T. Ibragimov, informed the chairman of the Turkestan Cassation Tribunal, Vanag,: "You have asked for an explanation of the reasons for the delay in the reports for the first quarter of 1922. We don't even send urgent correspondence due to lack of funds" [48].

Revolutionary tribunals served as an important weapon in the violent execution of any order of the Soviet government. For example, in the process of suppressing the armed resistance movement, the looting of the rural population by the Red Army, the devastation of arable lands led to a terrible famine, the government ordered to seize the last food stocks from the hands of farmers. On August 15, 1921, the All-Russian Central Exacutive Committee equated cases of non-payment of food and other product taxes with a counter-revolutionary movement and issued a decree establishing a tax department under revolutionary tribunals to punish such actions[49].

In Turkestan, the tax departments of the regional revolutionary tribunals were also established. In the event of mass tax evasion, mobile court hearings were organized to see such actions in the short term. The tax tribunals of the revolutionary tribunal could impose fines, confiscation of property at the expense of the state, or imprisonment on the offender [50].

It is known that before the October coup, cotton was the main agricultural crop in colonial Turkestan, and grain for consumption was imported from Russia. The famine began as a result of the cessation of grain imports in Russia due to the escalation of the civil war and the withdrawal of the latest supplies from Turkestan. Even in this situation, the government of the RSFSR continued to plunder Turkestan.

On August 15, 1921, the All-Russian Central Executive Committee equated cases of non-payment of food and other product taxes with a counterrevolutionary movement and issued a decree establishing a tax department under revolutionary tribunals to punish such actions[51]. H. Burnashev, one of the Soviet leaders of that time, described the situation as follows: "The main part of the population of Fergana is suffering from famine. In the old city of Kokand, the bodies of dozens and even hundreds of starving people are collected every day. These are all farmers. These poor people are killed like flies in the winter days. Anyone who wants to get acquainted with the disasters in Fergana should visit Shahrikhan. There are only 9,000 people left in the city, which once had a population of 75,000. " [52].



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On January 4, 1922, the People's Commissariat of Justice instructed the revolutionary tribunals to pass a verdict, accusing the citizens of not paying the food tax without a preliminary investigation[53]. On this basis, in January-March 1922, a number of mobile court hearings were held in the regions of the Turkestan ASSR, where those who did not pay the food tax were punished. Syrdarya Regional Revolutionary Tribunal in Avliyota, Shymkent, Perovsky and Tashkent districts; Samarkand Regional Revolutionary Tribunal in Kattakurgan and Jizzakh districts; Fergana Regional Revolutionary Tribunal in Fergana, Andijan and Namangan districts; The Yettisuv Regional Revolutionary Tribunal organized mobile court hearings in Pishpak, Jarkent and Lepsinsk districts. In particular, a mobile session of the Syrdarya Regional Revolutionary Tribunal, headed by Stupin, on March 14, 1922, considered the cases of 33 people who did not pay food tax in Tolkiboy volost and fined 8 people twice, 20 people three times and 5 people 5 times[54]. The court sentenced them to one year in prison and confiscated all their property if they did not pay the fine on time.

In the first quarter of 1922, the mobile session of the Syrdarya Regional Revolutionary Tribunal found 448 people guilty in 76 cases, fined 315 of them twice the tax, and confiscated the property of 20 [55, p. 11.].

In a situation where farmers are unable to pay taxes due to famine and drought, it is illogical for a court to pay 3-5 times the existing tax to a peasant family in need of a loaf of bread. As a result, their farms were confiscated at the expense of the state, and they were imprisoned. This led to the destruction of entire families. For example, Ulbozor Bekmurodova, a resident of the Polvonarik volost of Samarkand region, appealed to the regional revolutionary tribunal: "I ask you to release my husband from punishment. There is no other man in our family. My minor children were suffering from infectious sweating. I am inexperienced as a Muslim woman. With this help, you will save the whole family from an open catastrophe" [56].

Measures taken by the government to forcibly confiscate food from the population result in the punishment of innocent people and the destruction of helpless families.

Revolutionary tribunals had broad powers in the application of punishment. Originally approved by the Tashkent Revolutionary Tribunal in January 1918, the tribunal could impose fines, imprisonment, expulsion from Tashkent, declaration of an enemy of the people, deprivation of political rights, and confiscation of property in favor of the state. [57]. Another document, adopted on May 14, 1919, increased the penalties imposed by revolutionary tribunals to nine. Tribunals could sentence the convict to the maximum penalty death [58, p. 30.].

As stated in the first set of laws entitled "Priorities of the criminal legislation of the Turkestan

ASSR", the death penalty could be sentenced to death only by revolutionary tribunals, and the people's courts were not given such authority [59].

The number of cases heard by revolutionary tribunals also increased as the struggle against Soviet power intensified. This is confirmed by the following statistics. For example, in the first three months of 1922, the Turkestan ASSR regional revolutionary tribunals received 776 cases, while in the next quarter their number increased to 1,055. During the year, 2772 out of 3404 cases were considered. Of those convicted, 68 were sentenced to the maximum penalty [60, p. 7-8.].

During this period, in the Soviet state, in addition to the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal, there were cassation, military and railway tribunals, in most cases there were contradictions and confusion between them. Therefore, according to the decree adopted by the All-Russian Central Exacutive Committee on June 23, 1921, the Republican Military Tribunal, the General Railway Tribunal and the Cassation Tribunal under the All-Russian Central Exacutive Committee were abolished and transformed into military, military transport and cassation commissions subordinated to the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal [61, p.168-171]. In this way, all tribunals operating in Russia are managed from a single center.

On July 27, 1922, the All-Russian Central Executive Committee issued a decree on the establishment of judicial offices in Turkestan[62]. According to this document, the Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal, consisting of the Plenum, the Judiciary and the Cassation Committees, was retained in Turkestan. The control of military and railway tribunals in the territory of the Turkestan ASSR remained under the control of the RSFSR.

After the end of the civil war in Russia, there were changes in the system of public administration. During the Civil War, the emergency services were abolished and a permanent state apparatus was formed. This policy has also been applied to the judiciary. In particular, the dual diversity of the judiciary, consisting of people's courts and revolutionary tribunals, was abolished and a single system was introduced. This was reflected in the Regulations on the Judicial Structure of the RSFSR, adopted by the All-Russian Central Executive Committee on October 31, 1922. This charter provided for the introduction of a new system in the RSFSR on January 1, 1923, consisting of the Supreme Court, the provincial court and the people's courts [63, p. 237-247].

The Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal was abolished and replaced by the Supreme Court of the RSFSR and branches of the Supreme Court in the autonomous republics. As the Turkestan ASSR was an autonomous republic within the RSFSR, the Turkestan branch of the Supreme Court was



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established here. Subsequent subdivisions of the judiciary consisted of regional and people's courts.

On January 18, 1923, the All-Russian Central Executive Committee decided to open the Turkestan branch of the Supreme Court[64]. On March 17, a regulation was drafted. Decisions and theses of the Presidium of the Supreme Court of the RSFSR were published, staff and cost estimates were developed [65]. Thus, on April 14, 1923, the Turkestan Supreme Revolutionary Tribunal and its subordinates were abolished and replaced by the Turkestan branch of the Supreme Court of the RSFSR[66].

### 4.CONCLUSION.

In short, the Soviet government, in order to establish its control over all spheres of society, set up revolutionary, military and railway tribunals, which were extraordinary judicial bodies, and brutally repressed members of the armed movement against the Soviet regime and any dissidents in the country. As the political struggle intensified, the powers of the emergency courts expanded and the sanctions they imposed became more brutal. They resorted to mass repression and terror against opposition forces, as well as arrests and physical extermination. The procedure in the tribunals would have been a violation of human rights and far removed from justice.

The Soviet authorities presented not only political crimes, but also revolutionary tribunals to hear any case they found to be more severe. The impossibility of appealing the verdict handed down by the tribunals in the early years, or the shortness of such a period, indicates that these courts were aimed at protecting the interests of the Soviet government rather than human rights.

The Revolutionary Tribunal carried out brutal terror during its short tenure. Such an action led to an intensification of the struggle against Soviet power. Thus, the tribunals, as a punitive body, served to ensure the dominance of the Soviet government in these areas, mainly through the implementation of political, military and economic terror.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my special gratitude to Professor Dono Hamidovna Ziyoeva, Head of the Department of "History of Uzbekistan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries" of the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who made a great contribution to the editing of the first version of this article. Professor of this department Sanobar Bazarbaevna Shodmonova also gave scientific recommendations in the preparation of the article.

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