

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES “TURKPECHAT”, “SREDNEAZKNIGA” AND “KNIGA DEREVNE” IN UZBEKISTAN (1922-1928)

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18810947>

Nasirov Otabek Nazirzhanovich

*Acting Professor of the Department of Social Sciences and Physical Education at
Tashkent University of Economics and Pedagogical Sciences*

Abstract

This article covers the activities of the joint-stock companies Turkpechat, Sredneazkniga, and Kniga derevnei (Book of the Village) in Central Asia. These joint-stock companies were intended to promote education and disseminate Marxist ideology. However, these joint-stock companies failed to survive for long as joint-stock companies, resulting in the liquidation of this form of activity.

Keywords

Joint-stock company, printing, book, publication, founders, paragraph.

With the Bolsheviks' rise to power in 1917, virtually all joint-stock companies and banks that had opened branches in the Turkestan region under Tsarist Russia, [1] as well as most large and small partnerships operating before 1917, [2] were nationalized. All these measures led to financial problems. A shortage of financial resources led to the implementation of the New Economic Policy (NEP), beginning in 1921. To attract finance, joint-stock companies began to be established in all sectors of the economy. Unlike the Tsarist period, where joint-stock companies were created in three areas: trade, production, and credit, [3] in the initial period of Soviet rule, joint-stock companies were created in addition to the aforementioned areas, also in the spheres of culture and education.

In order to supply the working masses with all types of Marxist press and to distribute literature, on the initiative of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkestan, a joint-stock company, “Turkoperat pechat” [4], was formed in Tashkent on April 29, 1922. The charter of the company was approved by the shareholders on November 1, 1922. The board of directors of the company was located in Tashkent.

The partnership's primary goal was to supply party, professional, cooperative, scientific, and fiction literature, both periodical and non-periodical, textbooks, teaching aids, musical instruments, toys, and other goods. It primarily supplied Turkestan and Russian publications. Shops, kiosks, and agencies were opened to

sell the goods. With permission from the State Publishing House, the partnership could reprint popular works. The partnership's area of operation was not limited to the territories of the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukharan People's Soviet Republic, and the Khorezm People's Soviet Republic (the Uzbek SSR was formed in 1924), but also had the right to operate, where possible, in Afghanistan, Iran, and China. The partnership had branches in the cities of Samarkand, Kokand, Andijan, Chimkent, Poltoratsk, Aulie-Ata, Pishpek, and Tokmak. To further expand its operations, in 1924 the partnership was transformed into the joint-stock company "Turkpechat". The joint-stock company had the same functions as the partnership. In addition, it had the opportunity to increase its turnover by issuing shares owned by state-owned enterprises and institutions. But a distinctive feature was that the company's charter included the task of combating the private market. Judging by the activities of the joint-stock company, things were not going very favorably, since the company's balance sheet from 1926 to 1927 was in the red. As of February 1926, the company's balance was 867,710 rubles 59 kopecks, and on October 1 of the same year, 772,820 rubles 79 kopecks. [6] On September 20 of that year, the joint-stock company's activities were suspended, and all of the company's property was transferred to the joint-stock company "Sredneazkniga".

The partnership's primary goal was to supply party, professional, cooperative, scientific, and fiction literature, both periodical and non-periodical, textbooks, teaching aids, musical instruments, toys, and other goods. It is primarily supplied by Turkestan and Russian publications. Shops, kiosks, and agencies were opened to sell the goods. With permission from the State Publishing House, the partnership could reprint popular works. The partnership's area of operation was not limited to the territories of the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukharan People's Soviet Republic, and the Khorezm People's Soviet Republic (the Uzbek SSR was formed in 1924), but also had the right to operate, where possible, in Afghanistan, Iran, and China. The partnership had branches in the cities of Samarkand, Kokand, Andijan, Chimkent, Poltoratsk, Aulie-Ata, Pishpek, and Tokmak. To further expand its operations, in 1924 the partnership was transformed into the joint-stock company "Turkpechat". The joint-stock company had the same functions as the partnership. In addition, it had the opportunity to increase its turnover by issuing shares owned by state-owned enterprises and institutions. But a distinctive feature was that the company's charter included the task of combating the private market. Judging by the activities of the joint-stock company, things were not going very favorably, since the company's balance sheet from 1926 to 1927 was in the red. As of February 1926, the company's balance was 867,710 rubles 59 kopecks, and on October 1 of the same year, 772,820 rubles 79 kopecks. [6] On September 20 of that year, the joint-stock

company's activities were suspended, and all of the company's property was transferred to the joint-stock company "Sredneazkniga".

During its existence, the joint-stock company failed to fulfill its primary objectives, namely:

1. Publishing work, without a plan and market considerations, was unsuitable for serving national minorities and was unprofitable.
2. The planned and actual merger of trade activities with Uzgid in June 1927 did not take place.
3. Retail chains in Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and some locations in Uzbekistan were liquidated.
4. Production activities resulted in losses of over 100,000 rubles. [8]

Based on these indicators, the Central Asian Economic Council, by decree of March 29, 1928, liquidated the company due to a shortage of working capital and the impossibility of increasing it.

In 1925, the State Publishing House organized the joint-stock company "Book for the Village" to distribute political literature. The company's board was located in Moscow. Branches opened in almost all major cities. In Central Asia, there was a branch in Tashkent. During its existence, 6,500 book distribution points were established at postal and telegraph offices, 85% of which were in rural areas.

In 1927, the Tashkent branch's turnover for February was 8,000 rubles, and in March, 9,000 rubles. From April to June, the company sold goods worth 26,500 rubles, and in 1928, it received 5,022 rubles from the sale of office supplies. All these reports indicate that the company was profitable. This data is due to the fact that the joint-stock company was effectively a state-owned enterprise, as all of its shares were owned by state institutions and enterprises.

The data provided clearly confirms that joint-stock companies were subordinate to the state.

All of these measures were intended as temporary solutions to the current situation of the gradual transition of the economy to a different channel, which had begun to be used in 1929 under a planned nature.[11] As a result, from 1929 onwards, all joint-stock companies in the Soviet state (including Uzbekistan) ceased to exist in the early 1930s.

LITERATURE:

1. Nasirov Otabek Nazirjanovich "Formation and activity of joint-stock commercial banks in Turkestan region (late XIX - early XX centuries).

ACADEMICIA: An International Multidisciplinary Research Journal, ISSN: 2249-7137, Vol. 10, Issue 6, June 2020, pp 1510

2. Nasirov, O.N., "From the History of Consumer Societies in the Turkestan Region" (late 19th – early 20th centuries). *ECONOMICS*, No. 3 (46), 2020, p. 17.

3. Nasirov Otabek.,- Usmanov Farhod, Begaliyev Javlonbek "Order of Creation of Joint-Stock Companies in Turkestan In The Late Xix – Early Xx Centuries And Participation Of Foreign Capital In It". *International Journal of Psychological Rehabilitation*, Vol.24, Issue 07, 2020, pp 8034.

4. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection R-402, inventory 1, file 20a, pp. 8-9.

5. Nasirov, Otabek Nazirzhanovich, "Activities of Joint-Stock Companies in Uzbekistan in the 1920s-30s in the Sphere of Trade." *Young Scientist: International Scientific Journal*, No. 25(159), 2017, p. 255.

6. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection R-402, inventory 2, file 167, pp. 6, 12.

7. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection R-402, inventory 2, file 141, p. 33.

8. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection 155, inventory 1, file 46, p. 52.

9. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection P 1763, inventory 1, file 1, p. 209.

10. Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Collection P 1763, inventory 1, file 6, pp. 17, 24.

11. Nasirov, O.N., "Forms of Activity of Joint-Stock Banks and Enterprises in Uzbekistan in 1921–1928," *UzMU Khabarlari*, No. 1/4, 2016, p. 62.

12. Nazarov N., "The importance of physical education and sports in the recovery of the population" spanish international scientific online conference. international scientific-online conference part 16 november 29th colletions of scientific works madrid 2024.

13. Nazarov N., "Payment share and progress in physical education in the middle aession countries". *Web of scientist: international scientific research journal*. 2025.

14. Ermanov, Davron, and Zilola Ergasheva. "MAKING ASSESSMENT AND CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK." *Konferensiya 2024* 1.01 (2024).

15. Эргашева, Зилола Сайдуллоевна. "Маъно кўчиш турлари ҳақида назарий маълумот ва уни ўқитиш усулларининг илмий-методик адабиётларда ёритилиши." *Ta'lim fidoyilari* 5.9 (2022): 13-21.

16. Sadullaevna, Zilola Ergasheva. "Theoretical information about the types of semantic transfer and methods of its teaching in the scientific and methodological literature." (2022).

17. ERGASHEVA, Zilola Saidulloyevna. "THE ROLE OF FOLKLORE SAMPLES IN THE CREATION OF ANIMATED FILMS." *FOLKLOR, TIL VA MADANIYAT MASALALARINI ILMIY O'RGANISHDA FAN VA INNOVATSIYALAR UYG'UNLIGI*: 113.

18. Zebiniso, Xudayberdiyeva, and Shodiyeva Gulsanam. "THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF LIBRARIES IN HUMAN LIFE." *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE* 3.11 (2025): 46-52.