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Extended Abstract

Introduction: Turkmen tribes were hanging out by themselves according to their own agriculture in the 19th century this article will depict about Turkmenistan agriculture from past to present.

Methodology: The tribes, who were constantly attacked by the surrounding khanates, were trying to survive by living together. That is why the tribes had to protect their land very well. Each tribe had general and local rules in agriculture. Because the weather was hot and dry, there were a lot of battles for irrigated lands. Water was an important and scarce substance and there were several land and water systems. Agriculture was divided in two types: animal husbandry and plant production.

In 1881, after the capture of the Göktepe castle in the Ahal region by the Russian Empire, the Turkmen lands were completely went under Russian sovereignty. The Tsarist government began to apply its own policies in these lands, and it began to set targets for its own interests. The old agricultural systems began to disappear over time, the lands were taken from the hands of the poor peasants and given to rich Russian, Turkmen, Armenian governors and rich people. Poor farmers become completely unable to meet their personal needs after being officially laid off from their land. On the other hand, Tsarist Russia was trying to reduce nomadic life. After understanding that the Turkmen lands and climate was suitable for cotton, Tsarist Russia government started to use these lands for cotton farming.

Turkestan province was starting to become a cotton center. However, the local governors were crushing the farmers as much as they could. Due to the pressure of governors, farmers from time to time would rise up against them.

With the 1917 revolution, the Tsarist Russia was demolished and the socialism emerged. After the revolution, all the countries of the USSR began had periods. At first the farmers’ life were damaged. All rich and wealthy people were being abolished and they became enemies of the country. The government forcibly took the lands from more than a thousand farmer families.

During the period of military communism (1917-1921), great economic and social problems began in the general USSR. There was hunger, poverty, economic crisis, and the government levied big taxes.

By the NEP (New Economic Politic) everything started to change. The rates of production taxes were reduced by 20-30%. The government let farmers have their own lands but only for the working farmer's family; they could not employ another worker and some cooperatives were created.

At the same time, the best way to communism was discussed and researched between the agriculturists and the economists. There was a debate about the agricultural economy on two subjects during Lenin's last years and the period that followed his death. The first-subject was collectivization, and the second, co-operative (family economics). One of the agricultural economists was Aleksandr Vasilievich Chayanov. The main ideas that Chayanov had put forward were family economy and a cooperative economy.

In his projects, papers, and research he compared this system with others, even with capitalism. He tried to show negative and positive sides of all systems and noted that the family economy was the best alternative.

Chayanov's thoughts supported the family, while, on the other side, plans to build collective peasants began to be carried out by Stalin and his supporters. Collective farms, or, in short, the name of the Kolkhozes
became popular. While the Kolkhozes were public institutions supported by the villagers, villagers were asked to voluntarily join the Kolkhoz.

While Stalin considered collectivization to be a fast-industrialization path, he demanded that everything that he perceived to be counter to collectivization were removed. Thus, in 1937, a year of great “cleaning”, many economists, scientists, kulaks and other “dangerous” people like Chayanov was abolished.

In the Soviet era, the way people lived changed completely. USSR-style values were emerging ahead of old values. Religion and language changed completely.

Agriculture techniques and production had improved a lot. Cotton was the main product while other agricultural products were secondary. However, the productivity of other agriculture products increased. Also animal husbandry developed. The number of sheep and goats increased a lot, but the number of animals that were used for transportation decreased.

After the collapse of the USSR, in the 1990s major economical problems emerged not only in Turkmenistan but also in other former USSR countries.

Results: The government, which faced a few economic crises in the 90s, recovered in a short period of time and created a mixed system of collectivism and the family economy in agriculture. As in collectivism, the land belonged to the state. However, control was on Dayhan unions, which were achieved by taking into account all the factors of production. Dayhan unions rent land to farmers and help farmers in equipment, seeds, and others. Government wants more efficiency and productivity from agriculture. Not knowingly, Turkmenistan uses some Chayanov’s methods currently.

Conclusion: The experience of Turkmenistan clearly shows that the creative energy of farmers is more effective for both farmers and society when it is supported by cooperative / public order systems that allow the free use of agricultural facilities and the ability to carry out many activities that are characteristics of the traditional agricultural structure. This estimate is applicable to a wide range of agriculture, which specializes in several crops and has a wide range of plants and livestock potential. In countries with different conditions, different agricultural methods or systems that can be more effective.