

CHAPTER II

THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICS SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN

The Uzbek government has recently adopted a number of regulations and directories on restricting young people access to Internet and usage of mobile phones and multimedia. Ferghana news agency reports that those measures have been taken due to Uzbek authorities fearing spread of Arab Spring and alien “mass culture”(Expert Working Group 2012). Social Media and Social Networking (which can be considered as aspect of youth culture) were indeed widely used during Arab Spring Movement to schedule, coordinate and publicize events (Haward, 2012)

A. The phase of Uzbekistan under USSR power

In reality government haven't got the futures and the government of Uzbekistan still have the authoritarian of this country

All the big cities which are Ferghana, Tashkent and Bukhara had incorporated under Russian by 1876¹¹ later on these three big cities were called as Uzbekistan at that time, they were incorporated under Russian empire and granted limited autonomy, under Russian in the second half of the nineteenth century, the Russian population of Uzbekistan grew and some industrialization occurred These great developments made Uzbekistan become one of the big territories of Russian empires.

¹¹ History of Uzbekistan to 1876, retrieved on September 15, 2008 at <http://www.uzbekistan-history1876.htm>, Fergana news report

In 1924 Uzbekistan as one of the republics formerly joined the former USSR. In 1927 the first constitution of Uzbekistan was adopted¹². There were many priorities upon Uzbekistan developments during that period.

It were resumed as final role and decision making that were the period of inter-republican management bodies for developing national economy and the culture of central Asian republics for instance: central Asian Economic Council (in 1923) Central Asian water resource management, Central Asian state planning and etc. In a short period of time hard consequence of civil War eliminated and the industry develop rapidly. Mostly, the great changes have been taken in industrial engineering, metal and power branches. Besides there was also development on educational sectors, of which the state university of Tashkent become the center of education in Uzbekistan that aimed to produce many scholar to develop Uzbekistan. In 1930 Tashkent was declared as the capital city of Uzbekistan USSR.

In 1937 a new USSR constitution was adopted according to the constitutions the elections were held to choose the leaders who have eligibility from the Russian empire (at that time was STAIN). This condition was the reflection from the USSR condition that put absolution on stain as the only leaders that could lead USSR as consequences of many Uzbekistan leaders that were subjected to purges. In spring of 1938 more than 60 percent party secretaries such as obkoms (regional party committee), goekoms (city party

¹² Uzbekistan in the 20th -40th of the XX century, retrieved on September 12,2008 at <http://www.jahonews.uz/uzbekistan-history20-40century.html>

committee), and raikoms (district party committee) were subjected as political administration criminals¹³

Following the death of Stalin in 1953, the first secretary Nikita S. Khrushchev initiated the relative relaxation of totalitarian Control¹⁴ It brought the rehabilitation of some of the Uzbek nationalist who had been purged. It also attacked more Uzbeks began to join the communist party of Uzbekistan and to assume positions in the government. Khrushchev tried to do Russification to all of USSR territories including Uzbekistan. He forces the Uzbeks to use Russian language as the language of the state, and for those who were willing to spread the spirit of Russification, would have good position in the government or the party. However, most of Uzbeks still believed in the Uzbeks ethnics and influenced to the way the government run, in which those who did not or could not abandon their Uzbeks lifestyle and identities were excluded from 431 evading roles in official Uzbeks society. Because of this condition, Uzbekistan gained a reputation as one of the most politically conservative republic in the USSR. In the liberalized atmosphere of USSR leader under Mikhail S. Gorbachev's policies of perestroika and glasnost. Uzbekistan continued to be smoldered¹⁵. With the emergence of new opportunities to express, they expressed many kinds of problems as the consequences of absolutism that had been running before Gorbachev's era. The cotton scandal,

¹³ Jeff Sahadeo and Russel Zanca, *Everyday life in central Asia*, Indiana University press, Bloomington and Indianapolis, 2007, p.29

¹⁴ Jeff Sahadeo and Zanca, Op.Cit, p.31

¹⁵ <http://www.wikipidia.com/uzbekistan-history-1876-1991.htm> on September 15,2008
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the purges, and other long-unspoken resentment were the examples of these previous problems. As a result, the idea of independent Uzbekistan was initiated

By the late 1980s, some dissenting intellectuals had formed political organization to express their opinions. The most important of these, Birlik (unity), initially advocated the diversification of agriculture, a program to solve the problems of Aral Sea, and the declaration of the Uzbek language as the state language of the republic¹⁶.

Those issues were chosen because they were real concerns and a safe way of expressing broader disaffection with the Uzbek government. In their public debate with Birlik, the government and party never lost the upper hand. As become especially clear after the accession of Karimov as party chief, most Uzbeks, especially those outside the cities, still supported the communist party and the government. Birlik's intellectual leaders were never to make their appeal to a broad segment of the population

B. The phase of Uzbekistan in the collapse of USSR power

Which had long resented USSR policies such as imposition of Cotton monoculture and the suppression of Islamic traditions. In the late 1980s, the liberalized atmosphere of the USSR under Mikhail S. Gorbachev fostered political opposition groups and open oppositions to USSR policy in Uzbekistan in the 1970s, Moscow's control over Uzbekistan weakened. For the representative of USSR in Uzbekistan, Sharaf Rashidov, brought many cronies

¹⁶ Sight of uzbekistan: Uzbekistan in Post-World war, retrieved on September 12,2008 at www.johanneews.uz/uzbekistan-early-history.com

and relatives into positions of power. In 1980s, Moscow attempted to regain control by again purging the entire Uzbek party leaders. However, this move increased Uzbek Nationalism; in 1989 series of violent ethnic clashes involving Uzbeks brought the appointment of ethnic Uzbek outside Islam Karimov as communist Party leader. When the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan reluctantly approved an independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Karimov became a president of the Republic of Uzbekistan

On August 31, 1991, the Parliament declared the Declaration of the State independent of the Republic of Uzbekistan. On December 29, 1991, this decision was supported by referendum. This was the beginning of the history of the country. The country opened to the world community.

However, Uzbekistan as a new independent state faced many problems dealing with its all aspects in the very beginning of its independence. At least there were six main problems that were faced by Uzbekistan that really determined its economics decline

The demographic situation in the country was the first problems in Uzbekistan that is needed to be solved. In order to develop the country, Uzbek government needed good human resources to build and develop Uzbekistan nation and state building. However, at that time they had a big problem in dealing with the human resources quality, for the majority of its citizen who was children. The number of children constituted the largest number of Uzbekistan population of which it means they were still in the non-productive

period. Therefore, this problem of demographic might be the biggest obstacle of Uzbekistan government to develop its state.

The first problem is the distortion in economy. Actually this problem was the problem that attacked USSR and made them collapsed. This problem occurred because of the unbalance between household money income and access to products and services. This spreading of money was really huge, but the lack of goods and products was also really huge, so that is why it created unbalance condition upon the cycle of the money and product

The second problem that is caused by the lack of products was affected by the lack of technological machinery to produce those products.

The third of Uzbekistan as an independent state was lack of technological machines. At that time as a new country they had a dilemma, whether they asked to the Russian as their previous main country or asked to other nations that they did not have any relations. Therefore, these three complicated problem were codified in one really big problem for Uzbekistan

The forth problem was the international problem that emerged in its neighboring countries, Tajikistan and Afghanistan which experienced crisis. As a state in the border of those two countries, definitely the crises also impacted to the existence of Uzbekistan as a newly independent state and its national stability in which it also influenced to the invested market condition. In addition, there were many interested parties that tried to inter fare the crises there that might threat Uzbekistan. Moreover, at that time Uzbekistan also had

no military power. Thus, Uzbekistan still had an opportunity to use help from those interested parties

As a commonwealth of independent state (CIS) of Russia, the mentality that formed in the era of USSR still with them and it was not a heavy burden, for they were accustomed to be a colonized country and protected by the super power, but not anymore. This problem has shown the uneasiness of Uzbekistan to stand as an independent country. Moreover this also becomes the last problem of Uzbekistan because they need an institution to regulate any policy that related to the economic policy. As a novice, Uzbekistan still had no developing personal institution to make and supervise the economic policy that determined the development of the country

In dealing with these all problems, president Karimov determined the "Uzbekistan First" the derived from the "5 principles" which is foundation of all Uzbekistan policies. These priorities were evident earlier on despite the fact that Uzbekistan won its independence almost inadvertently when USSR power collapsed. President Karimov in this independent speech said that "independence is primarily a way to get out of a complex and critical economic situation." Therefore, in the first very beginning all Uzbekistan policies were directed to stabilize its economic stability as "Economic First".

C. The government of Uzbekistan stills the Authoritarian

Russia conquered Uzbekistan in the late 19th century. Stiff resistance to the Red Army after World War I was eventually suppressed and a socialist republic set up in 1924. During the Soviet era, intensive production of "white gold" (cotton) and grain led to overuse of agrochemicals and the depletion of water supplies, which have left the land poisoned and the Aral Sea and certain rivers half dry. Independent since 1991, the country seeks to gradually lessen its dependence on agriculture while developing its mineral and petroleum reserves. Current concerns include insurgency by Islamic militants based in Tajikistan and Afghanistan, a non-convertible currency, and the curtailment of human rights and democratization. Uzbekistan is an authoritarian state with a population of approximately 27.6 Million. The constitution provides for a presidential system with separation of Power among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. In practice President Islam Karimov and the centralized executive branch Dominated political life and exercised nearly complete control over the other branches of the 150 members of the lower house of parliament, 135 are elected and the remaining 15 were reserved for the newly established Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan. Eighty- four of the 100 senators are chosen in limited elections open only to elected members of local councils, and the president appoints the remaining 16. In 2007 the country elected President Karimov to a third term in office; however, according to the limited observer mission from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the government deprived voters

of a genuine choice. Parliamentary elections took place in December 2009. While observers reported noticeable procedural improvements in comparison to the 2004 parliamentary elections, the 2009 elections were not considered free and fair due to government restrictions on eligible candidates and government control of media and campaign financing. Security forces reported to civilian authorities