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# History of the farmers' movement in Uzbekistan: modernization or revival Neotraditionalism?

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#### **Abstract**

The subject of the research is the history of the formation of farming in post-Soviet Uzbekistan. After the collapse of the USSR in 1991, state policy in agriculture changed. New relations and forms of ownership arose in the agricultural sector of the republic. Today in Uzbekistan there are various forms of ownership. In the village in the early 90es XX century a layer of producer owners was created - farmers. The author pays special attention to an attempt to establish a connection between the legislative framework and the real situation in the agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, farming, dekhkan economy, collective farm, state farm, agriculture

#### Introduction

Since independence in Uzbekistan's life began a new stage in the political and socio-economic sphere. Today in Uzbekistan the various forms of ownership. Since 1991, public policy changed attitude to forms of ownership in agriculture. In the village there was a layer of producers' owners - farmers.

This raises the question: who are the farmers and the movement emerged in Uzbekistan? On what principles is based farmers' movement? Farmer - an entity that is engaged on leased land to cotton, wheat, fruit and vegetable farming and animal husbandry [1]. First Farm movement arose in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand as a consequence of the development of new virgin lands colonists Europeans. But in Western Europe, farming arose on the basis of overall development of capitalism, which is the evolution of the landlord economy created a basis for the development of farming in the region. In the 1920s-1930s in the United States, Canada, 1950s-1966s, Western Europe has moved to full mechanization of agriculture. As a result, farmers have become major producers of agricultural products. The basis for this breakthrough farming in western countries has become private land ownership and land lease on favorable terms [2]. In Uzbekistan, before the establishment of Soviet power there are different types of land ownership (e.g. waqf, mulk and state land). In the 1920s in Uzbekistan at the initiative of the Bolsheviks was held land and water reform, which radically changed the agrarian relations in the region. In the 1930s in Uzbekistan was collectivized agriculture, which destroyed private property in land. Place on the expropriated land were created collective and state farms. The farmer lost all rights to land and turned into a "mercenary", who served the state order. This situation continued until 1989, until the law was passed on the farm. The first farms were established in Bukhara region and Karakalpakstan. It should

be noted that these facilities were not under a legal framework [3].

The first farms were created on the basis of collective or state farm. Also farms created on loans received from the state. There have been cases that farms were created using private funds. Most farmers have bank accounts, and pay taxes. Farms enrich its technical base by buying the means of production bankrupt collective farms.

First farmer (dekhkan) formed on a piece of farm land allocated for rent kolkhoz farm owner. In fact, the first farms were considered tenants at collective and state farms. Manufactured goods by contract farmers handed collective or state farm. The Soviet state, thus pegged farmer to farm. Activities farmer controlled farm. The first farmers in Uzbekistan were smallholders, who are accountable to the state. This situation prevented the free development of farming in Uzbekistan. Despite all the difficulties, farming in Uzbekistan gained momentum and stop this movement was impossible. Farm symbolized a "new deal" in the agrarian sector, and many business and enterprising people began to become farmers. In June 1989, the first secretary of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan becomes I.A Karimov. Coming to power Karimov began to pay attention to the development of farming. Uzbekistan was considered an agricultural country and therefore the reform of the agrarian sector was considered a priority for domestic policy. But without achieving independence, Uzbekistan could not choose their own path of development. And as noted by Karimov "Uzbekistan's transition to a market economy determines the reforms in the agricultural sector, since agriculture plays an important socio-economic role in the country. 66% of the population lives in rural areas and 44% of national income gives agrarian sphere. Agriculture basis of life and is the basis for industrial development and export resources and foreign exchange inflows" [4].

At the initiative of President Islam Karimov in the country

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began to develop a new system of agricultural management <sup>[5]</sup>. In 1990, were reorganized Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Reclamation. Until 1990, all of these ministries were merged into a single Ministry of agro. Agriculture could not solve the problem, overdue in agriculture of the republic and therefore it had to be disbanded and subjected to decentralization. The decentralization process has improved the state of agriculture in the country.

It should be noted that any major reform in turn needs a legal basis. Uzbekistan in the first years of independence (1991-1995) took over two hundred laws, regulations and decrees of the Supreme Council and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which regulated agrarian sector of the republic in all areas, ranging from management to implementation of the product <sup>[6]</sup>.

Laws on agrarian sector can be divided into two parts: the laws that have been adopted before the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan (8 December 1992) regulations and laws that have been adopted in accordance with the Constitution. The first type are the following laws and regulations: the law "On Land" (26 June 1990) [7], the law "On Property" (30 October 1990) [8] and the Law "On the farm "(July 3, 1992) [9]. These laws not only played a political role in the development of private property and farming, but also a psychological role in relation to the property at all. These laws began to be radically changed people's lives, and explain to the population the basic principles of the market economy. Of course, the above laws were formed in the minds of people relating to property, business and money. But these laws are not able to become a cornerstone for the development of private property and therefore required a more perfect law at the state level - Constitutional property law.

December 8, 1992 was adopted Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which states that private property is inviolable and sacred. Also, Article 53 of the Constitution states that "the development of a market -based economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is a different form of ownership" [10]. This law has been the legal basis on which it was created in Uzbekistan class of property owners in the country's agriculture. Article 55 of the Constitution reads: "Earth, underground wealth and other natural resources are national and are under state protection" [11]. These articles of the Constitution played a positive role in the constitution of traffic farming in Uzbekistan, while these articles established the legal basis for free enterprise, as well as increased responsibility of business entities to the state. It should be noted in Uzbekistan laws of a market economy are twofold: 1) open a wide road of entrepreneurship, 2) limited the activity of economic entities set of restrictions and prohibitions. This particular development has given rise to the following phenomenon: business and farming are heavily dependent on the state and state officials, who often interpret the law to their advantage. Based on the constitution, have been developed with the laws, decrees and regulations that regulate economic relations on the farm: Land Code (30 April 1998) [12], "Law on the farm "(30 April 1998)"[13] Act Dekhkan economy "(30 April 1998)," [14] on cooperation in agriculture "(30 April 1998), "On the farm "(from August 26, 2004 as amended) [15]. These laws have created all the conditions for the establishment of farming in Uzbekistan.

Law "On the farm" on April 30, 1998 for the first time clarified the difference between farming enterprises. Earlier concepts peasant farming and mixed farming and hindered the development of agriculture. Since private farm mistakenly called farmers, although the main difference between them was that that private farm land rented for a short period and is mainly dependent on the state. It is this law gave a definition of what a farm, its objectives and functions. Of course, after the adoption of this law has increased the role of farming in agriculture. Under this law, the following characteristics were determined by the farm:

- 1. Farming is farming, which leases the land for the long term and operates independently.
- 2. Farm farming, this mainly engaged in agricultural production.
- 3. Farming Agriculture, which operates through members of the farm and is a legal entity [16].

In article 24 of the law states that a farmer can attract labor from outside, concluding a labor contract with workers, i.e. the farmer has the right to employ hired labor.

A private farm does not have these features. According to the adopted in Uzbekistan in 1998 April 30 private farm law is considered:

- Small-scale family farming.
- Based on the personal labor of family members.
- In inherited or transferred data in family life tenure led rural garden land produces goods and sells them.
- May act as the status of a legal entity, and not having that status.
- Has no right to use a permanent hired labor [17].

Data features and differ from Dekhkan farm economy. It should be noted that all the provisions of the Constitution establishes the legal framework of the farm, it is in a consistent manner deemed effective. Base economic independence farm in previous years was the adopted laws. Land farmer has begun to receive income, feel free and independent. Was issued before the end of the practice of renting land. Now the law is allowed to transmit a legacy and contracting for 50 years dedicated to farmers land. Improve the system of taxation of agricultural enterprises in 1991 January 1, to replace the existing multiple types of taxes, introduced a single tax on land. The fact that this phenomenon first began to be practiced and is still working in our country first of all CIS countries, is essential.

Decision of the Ministry of the Republic of Uzbekistan decrees number 243 and number 543 of 2000, found 17 unviable farms in Khorezm and Syrdarya regions in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, were completely eliminated and in their place created in 1022 farms. The newly-established farms from the first year increased cotton yields by 6.4 quintals of cereals by 5.3 quintals. And the profitability of cotton increased from 12.8 to 18.9 percent, with 1.3 percent of grain has reached 19.8 percent [18].

According to the results of the reforms carried out in 2008 and 2010 land farms have been optimized. In the optimization process on the basis of 2012, the country's farms have been reduced from 215,776 to 66,134, or 69.4%, so the average area of the farm was able to increase from 27.4 hectares to 80.1 hectares. If we examine individual sectors, the average size farm in cotton and grains equals

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106.3 acres, Vegetables and Melons 23.5 hectares in horticulture and viticulture 13.1 hectares, 205 hectares in animal husbandry  $^{[19]}$ .

As a result of the reforms, the country has achieved food security. In the period before independence of Uzbekistan, imported from outside an average of 3 million tons of grain [20]. 1990 was collected 2,038,200 tons of grain, by 2013 farmers had grown more than 7.5 million tons. Creating farming movement and its development today is to increase soil productivity of livestock farming and crop, ensuring food safety.

The future of the Uzbek people largely depends on the organization of land use. Therefore, the most important of reforms in the country are reforms aimed at the production of agricultural goods. Because agriculture is the leading trend of the economy. The modern form of the production of agricultural products by farmers was the most productive. Nowadays, in order to maintain the development of farms both legal and organizational conditions more and more secure.

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