

THE ROLE OF THE PRESS IN COVERING THE CHANGES IN THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIFE OF UZBEKISTAN DURING THE PERIOD OF RECONSTRUCTION

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Abstract. *The article analyzes the role of the press in covering social and political problems and finding their solutions in the context of recent changes in Uzbekistan during the reconstruction process of 1985-1991. Based on the quantitative analysis, it was shown that the activity of the press is closely related to the events and events that are most relevant in the life of the society at the moment. It is based on the fact that the task of awakening the society through information media and eliminating accumulated complications was carried out with the help of the press.*

Keywords: *reconstruction, transparency, pluralism, socio-political development, ideological opposition, propaganda, democratization of society, national politics, ecology.*

INTRODUCTION

The restructuring process carried out in 1985-1991 had a great impact on information policy and media policy. The information policy started by the leadership of the Central Committee of the CPSU in order to support reforms and fight against its opponents in the politburo was called "openness". The policy of transparency should help the party to promote the reforms it announced and fight against the opposition within the party. The press of the period of reconstruction was assigned the task of ideological opposition to conservatism. M.S. Under the influence of Gorbachev's speeches, the bureaucracy, which was called the "administrative-command system" in the media, began to be shown as the main obstacle to the democratization of society.

Politicization of society is not an invention of the period of reconstruction, it is a characteristic of the Soviet system, which together with the administrative-command system of management had to create a system of ideological protection. The collective organizer of this defense has always been the press, which was considered the main tool for spreading and implementing the ideas of the KIIIC.

Consequently, in the early period of reconstruction, the press was considered primarily as a participant in political propaganda, and was assigned the task of promoting party attitudes and values. First of all, they were asked to take a creative approach to strengthening the position of political power by elucidating the facts confirming the correctness of the party's ideological instructions. One of the most important requirements stated in the instructions of the KIIIC bodies to media workers was to increase attention to the work of party organizations, to widely promote their experience, and to create an opportunity for the speeches of party leaders at all levels.

The proliferation of party-themed materials on the pages of newspapers and magazines was weakening readers' interest in mass media and trust in journalists. Under the influence of social and political activism, in the late 1980s, the mass media began to take a critical approach to the

policy and ideology of the KIICC, and later on, a struggle against these beliefs, concepts and values began on the pages of the press.

The Uzbek press began not only to raise problems in society, but also to look for ways to solve them. Publications such as “Literature and Art of Uzbekistan”, “Young Leninist”, “East Star” are the leaders in this regard, they tried to impartially cover acute socio-political problems, reveal their socio-economic roots and solve these problems as much as possible.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the collective monographs and orders created in the years produced in Uzbekistan [1], the restoration and specific features of the practice transferred to the Soviet practice were revealed. In particular, Q. Rajabov is dedicated to the study of the reconstruction of control controls and management of the situation in Uzbekistan [2].

M. In Alikhanov's research, it was noted that in 1985-200, the creative intellectuals of Uzbekistan conveyed their ideas to the public through the mass media in order to find solutions to socio-economic, political, spiritual, cultural-educational, environmental problems in the country, and press materials related to these topics were used [3]. J.E. In Tangrikulov's dissertation, the periodical press materials, which include socio-political, economic and cultural processes in Uzbekistan during the years of reconstruction, were researched [4].

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research used the method of content analysis, which plays an important role in the study of press materials with a large volume and different content. Content analysis focuses on the analysis of large volumes of press materials and information, which helps to study them in relation to the social environment of the time.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The content analysis of articles published in newspapers and magazines in 1985-1991 shows that the topic of the articles was closely related to the events and events that are the most relevant in the life of the society at the moment. The results of the analysis show that the focus of press publications in 1985-1991 was on the problems of social and political life, and the main articles were devoted to the coverage of the most pressing issues on the agenda (Tables 1, 2).

Content analysis of articles published in newspapers in 1985-1991

(The analysis was carried out by the author on the basis of the data of the newspaper and magazine articles section of the monthly bibliographic index "The Chronicle of the Press of the SSR of Uzbekistan")

Table 1

Years	Economy and industry		Politics and ideology		Culture and enlightenment		Science and education		Social sphere	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1985	2159	35	1574	26	1280	21	939	15	205	3
1986	2592	36	1874	26	1421	20	987	14	294	4
1987	3100	31	2610	26	1835	18	1670	16	905	9
1988	3798	30	3384	26	2137	17	2273	18	1165	9
1989	2104	27	2604	33	1040	13	1424	18	734	9
1990	2501	24	3759	36	1637	16	1980	19	529	5
1991	2426	21	3301	29	2179	19	2718	24	818	7
Total	18680	28	19106	29	11529	18	11991	18	4650	7

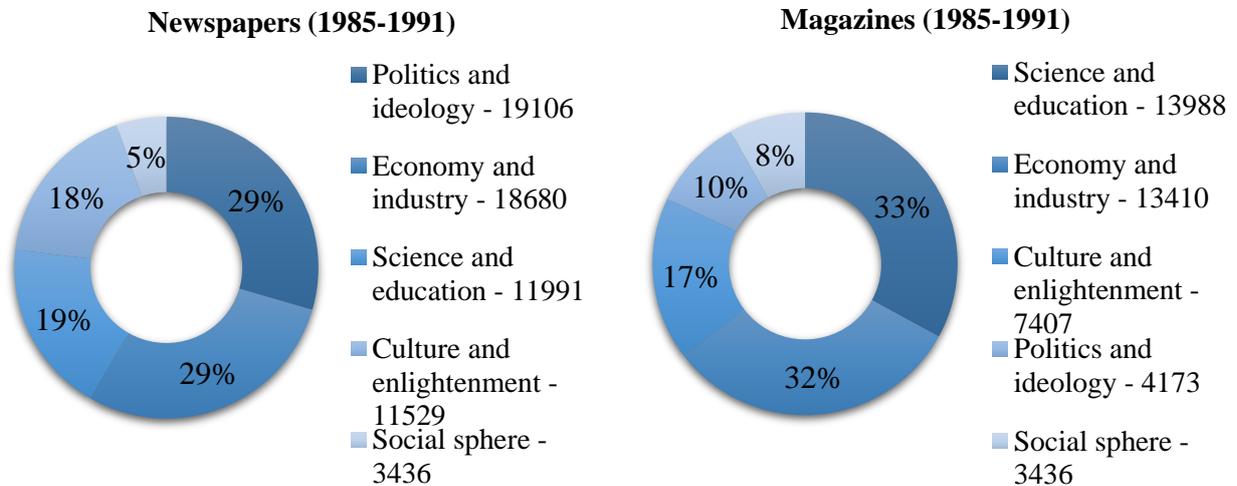
Content analysis of articles published in magazines in 1985-1991

Table 2

Years	Economy and industry		Politics and ideology		Culture and enlightenment		Science and education		Social sphere	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1985	1455	33	430	10	782	17	1387	31	422	9
1986	1515	32	320	7	921	20	1523	32	443	9
1987	2411	34	603	8	1314	19	2226	32	486	7
1988	1921	32	470	8	1052	17	2180	36	442	7
1989	1785	32	490	9	879	15	1928	34	564	10
1990	1826	29	585	9	1086	18	2264	37	457	7
1991	1921	32	470	8	1052	17	2180	36	442	7
Total	13410	32	4173	10	7407	17	13988	33	3436	8

The results of the above-mentioned content analysis show that in the first stage of reconstruction, the press focused primarily on its economic and political aspects. For example, in 1985, 35% of articles published in newspapers were devoted to economic and industrial issues, 26% to political and ideological issues, 21% to cultural and educational topics, and only 3% to social issues. By 1991, political and ideological issues came to the fore, accounting for 29%, articles on science and education - 24%, materials on economics and industry - 21%, culture and enlightenment - 19%, and social issues - 7%. As can be seen from the diagram below, the socio-political topic occupies a significant place in the press publications (diagram 1).

Diagram 1



Thanks to the publicity policies announced by the Reconstruction, the number of sensitive topics raised in the press increased. New topics, problems, and ideas published in the press have changed not only society, but also social institutions, including mass media.

It should also be noted that while politicians and cultural representatives increasingly distanced themselves from communist values in their speeches in the central mass media, conservative views remained in remote republics and regions. It was the central mass media that marked the changes in the worldview of the population during the period of reconstruction, while the peripheral regions lagged far behind these changes.

At the same time, in the materials of newspapers and magazines, non-use of various genres, superficiality was noticeable, new approaches to the emerging problems were lacking. Especially in the early period of reconstruction, the struggle against unhealthy phenomena and obstacles to democratic processes was poorly covered in newspapers and magazines. Despite the new, lofty name, it can be seen that many materials are written in the old style. This was influenced by the practice of preparing materials for publication, and the conservative approach of editors. Along with articles on mandatory topics ("acceleration," "openness," "rationalization," "pluralism"), reports on crop and industrial success, socialist competition winners, etc. materials about are printed side by side.

On the pages of newspapers and magazines published during this period, national politics and national conflicts in our country, ecology, acquittal and restoration of rights of victims of the repressive policy of the Soviet government, crime and the fight against it, women's situation and problems, tragedies in the ranks of the army, independence of the republic information about the struggle that started on the way is reflected, and their analysis allows to study the conflicting and complex socio-political processes that took place in the conditions of reconstruction.

In particular, the national conflicts that began in the Soviet Union, the democratization of society and the policy of transparency made the national issue one of the main topics of debate in the mass media. At the plenum of the Central Committee of the KIIIC held in September 1989, the issue of the national policy of the party was raised, which caused the issue of inter-ethnic relations to be particularly widely discussed in the press. However, soon this discussion was not limited to just expressing an official opinion, but previously closed topics began to be raised. In his famous article "Friendship begins with respect", Hoshimov glorified the idea of friendship between nations, condemned the oppression of one nation by another nation, sharply exposed the chauvinism of great statesmanship found in large nations [5], intense debates were organized on the pages of newspapers and magazines. the letters of newspapermen were published without ideological censorship.

In a situation where the ideas of abandoning the traditional communist ideology and national revival began to spread widely, the opinion of the side that did not want to abandon the old views was reflected in the press. In particular, T. Polatov's article "We will catch up and overtake Angola" published in Moskovskie Novosti newspaper points out that Russians and the "Russian-speaking population" are in a difficult situation in Uzbekistan and are moving away. The inevitability of "sinking" was emphasized [6]. Not all of the published articles have an objective assessment of the socio-political situation in Uzbekistan. In 1989, the first deputy minister of internal affairs of the Uzbek USSR E.A. Didorenko and deputy public prosecutor O.I. An interview with the Gaidanovs will be published [7]. This 30-page article deals with organized crime. However, most of the opinions expressed in the conversation were aimed at strengthening the one-sided image of the Uzbek people formed under the influence of the "cotton case" and trying to show that Uzbekistan is in the first place in the Union in terms of organized crime.

Topics that were not recommended to be covered in the press by the Soviet party-administrative censorship began to be raised. One of Bundpay's issues is the issue of ecology, and in this regard, the influence of the cotton monopoly in the conditions of Uzbekistan was very large. However, under the influence of democratic reforms, materials covering environmental problems began to enter the information field more. The discussion of acute environmental issues in the central press, the speeches of scientists, writers and journalists on this topic in authoritative

publications began to remove this topic from the secrecy regime. In 1989, biologist N.N. The appointment of Vorontsov as the chairman of the USSR State Committee for Nature Protection and the decision of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on "Urgent measures to improve the ecology of the country" [8], which was adopted on October 27 of this year, stimulated the increase in environmental transparency.

During this period, as in the entire Soviet Union, certain changes that began to take place in social, political and economic life in Uzbekistan, and the increase in social activity of people took place with the active participation of the press. Thanks to the policy of transparency, the press began to bring out the most important socio-political problems that were previously hidden from the eyes of society. During the period of reconstruction, printed publications were not limited to providing information about events taking place in social and political life, but also conveyed certain political ideas to citizens with the help of analytical materials, and formed the attitude to these ideas.

The reconstruction policy could not save the USSR from the inevitable crisis. In the conditions of the crisis that began in the country, the press became a forum where ideas such as the creation of a legal state and the independence of the republic began to be heard [9]. The press played an important role in the strengthening of national identity awareness and bold steps towards independence that began in Uzbekistan.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

In short, the issue of the press has gained urgent importance in maximally informing the governing bodies of the socio-political processes and events that took place during the period of reconstruction, in order to respond to the rapid changes taking place in time, and to develop the necessary measures and solutions. During the period of reconstruction, the press became a real forum where the problems that arose in the political and social life of the country were raised. Undoubtedly, the press took the lead in raising the conflicts of the time, awakening the nation, and raising the problems caused by the long-term colonial policy.

During the period of reconstruction, the press played a big role in the implementation of fundamental changes in the political, spiritual, and economic spheres, in finding solutions to acute problems such as social, ecological, inter-ethnic relations, state language, acquittal of victims of repression.

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