Note on Transliteration

The basic purpose for choosing the transliteration system that we have is to avoid any special characters that are not on a standard keyboard (with some further simplifications). For transliterating/Romanising Tajik names, places and concepts from the Tajik Cyrillic alphabet, we will avoid all systems of transliteration that use special characters or diacritics. Instead, we will use the unnamed system that has become the standard commonly used in Tajikistan. Basically, it is the BGN/PCGN system with some small alterations. The alterations: 'И' and 'Ӣ' will both be transliterated as 'i' (for example, the first and second 'i' in *Hisori* are different letters in Tajik Cyrillic); 'ъ' will be omitted (for example, *tarikh*, not *ta'rikh*) in the main text (with a few exceptions, such as for the *La'li Badakhshan* movement), but not in the bibliography and footnotes; both 'ӯ' and 'у' will be transliterated as 'u'; while 'э' and 'е' will both be rendered as 'e'. This system may be jarring for those familiar with common transliterations of Dari, Farsi, Urdu and Arabic due to name transliterations such as Abdullo and Rahmon instead of Abdullah and Rahman. Variants on place and people names from Tajikistan that have become commonly accepted in English will not be put through the same strict transliteration (for example, Tajikistan, Uzbek and Pamir; not Tojikiston, Uzbak and Pomir). What will be completely avoided in the main text is transliterating Tajik via Russian (for example, Kulob, Qurghonteppa and Rahmon; not Kulyab, Kurgan-Tyube and Rakhmon). An exception will be made when we directly quote an author.

Bibliographic entries and citations in Russian that include Tajik places or people will be transliterated using a Russian Romanisation system. The system of Russian transliteration for Slavic and Russian names, titles and concepts in the main text will not strictly follow one single system. The bibliography and footnote references for all Russian titles will follow a transliteration system closest to the BGN/PCGN standard, with an exception when another author's citation appears in the footnotes.