

A WIRED SOCIETY

BY OLIMAKHON ERGASHEVA FROM UZBEKISTAN

Up until recently, it turns out that I never thought about decentralization or did not even know what centralization is. However, it is something that we all knew to a certain extent just by living our lives. Decentralization, in general, is stating there is no general paradoxically. Giving each operating part their freedom to act as they want and do their functions best to their knowledge, as we all know what happens when people in charge do not understand the principles of each division. To illustrate, let's take human body, each organ does its own job with a little supervision from the brain, and that is how we have been functioning till this day.

On an organizational level, decentralization can be seen beneficial in bringing out new leaders, and this motivating more workers to do their best, while in centralized environments workers do not tend to make changes as they know that the system does not favor them much. Concluding from my personal experience of working in government job, where your every single click would go through the capital, Tashkent, it was pretty hard for me and my colleagues to have a different approach to our tasks. We had no choice but stick to the old methods, consequently there was no room for innovation. That was when I thought to myself that if we had more freedom to make our work faster and more efficiently, we would have come up with the means to do so.

Many people in the world do not tolerate migrants, and in Uzbekistan, where I live, people of the same nation and the same religion do not even like each other. For example, the city of Tashkent, the capital of the country, is still a small country within the country. Local residents are very vicious towards visitors from other regions, calling them "avatars" and making fun of their dialects. The well-known word "come in large numbers", which Russians use in relation to migrants, guest workers from neighboring countries, Tashkent uses for their own compatriots. I call this "Tashkentism". I came across a post on social media that really made me think

about it. A resident of the Kashkadarya region, explained everything in great detail to his post, that the main income for the country's budget is the extraction of gas and oil and makes up almost 62 percent of the budget and it is produced in Kashkadarya. But all income from this raw material does not remain in the region, but go to Tashkent, the state budget. For the development of this region is centrally allocated from the state budget. The dissatisfaction of this resident was as for why Tashkent residents do not like or welcome them when they come to the city, saying the entire infrastructure is in the capital, even the gas that we process does not reach us. For better conditions for families and children, they are forced to leave their homes and come to the capital to somehow arrange the lives of our children, and provide better living conditions. The term “qishloqi” literally means “someone who came from/lives in a village” and it is considered a really offensive and abusive word in Uzbekistan. When I was a little girl, my grandmother had a fight in the market with other women and I remember her saying: “If you don't like us so much, then leave our money with us. We will develop our region and there is no reason to go to your capital.”

I believe that decentralization is a powerful tool to build solid, efficient and competitive organization. But, as good as it is in organizational and governance systems, it can also come in handy when talking about economy. Imagine a real money that is permissionless. We all have heard of bitcoins, although they still remain to be controversial among people and countries, there are some fundamental benefits of them that we cannot deny. As the crypto system is fully decentralized, the third-party will surely not be involved in processes, which makes them safe and cheap, making them censorship resistant. Although, it is still a risk, they make any transactions faster and transparent. I am not an economist or financial analyst, but we have witnessed that the countries that made bitcoin legal are now having their economic incomes doubled, as well as having the most out of innovation, investment and jobs. Which leads us to a logical conclusion that it is becoming the future, inevitably.

To sum up, decentralization is absolutely essential in today's globalized and society that is in need of innovation every day. Although it has its drawbacks, many areas of human life will benefit from this organizational structure. It gives power to those, who know their work, words, and region, and providing a chef with everything s/he needs is how we get a delicious meal. Giving people freedom, insuring quality life for countryside residents, adjusting to fast changes and reaping the economic benefits are one of the many advantages that decentralized world has to offer. Additionally, seeing injustices and concluding from my personal experience, I can peacefully state that the advantages will far ahead overweight the disadvantages.