Hashar

Hashar refers to a collective gathering to do a large-scale job such as digging a water channel or planting a big garden etc. Usually hashar is organized for the event that benefits the entire community as such nobody is paid for their volunteer participation and labor. The hashar tradition witness the ancient culture of mutual assistance that Tajik people have had in the past and it continues to this day.

There is also hashar organized for a benefit one individual for example building a house or collecting harvest. For such work those who come to help are given small token from the harvest or a fed a meal. Whereas for the social hashar people will come eating their own food at homes and now rewards are given. It is possible that during the hashar few of the community members would contribute towards cooking a big meal like oshi palav or other food.

The hashar was also common during the collective farm days when those assigned a big plot of land to sow or irrigate or harvest would call for hashar and the community would come to help him. People for hashar also bring their
own tools needed for the job, which means that when invitation for hashar is sent it is declared what type of job is supposed to be achieved.

Hashar is collectively planned-in-advance event that is people would first discuss it and chose a date when majority can participate. These days hashar are organized for the big and small jobs directed towards to the wellbeing society and improving the environment of the community such as fixing the roads, planting trees or empowering the river banks.