

Migration politics during the years of industrialization

The growth of the tempi of industrial construction led to the appearance of the deficit of work force. For the provision of the constructions with hands and at the same time with the aim to economy in the training of Kazakh workers the authorities practiced so called organizational enrollment in the stricken by unemployment western regions of the country, according to which to the republic in 1931-1940 yy. 559 th. people were brought. The significant number of the workers, especially, semi-qualified comprised the peasants from the down-and-out by collectivization villages and auls. As a result, the productivity of labour, discipline sharply dropped, the slovenliness, drunkenness flourished, the pressure between qualified work Europeans and non-qualified Kazakhs emerged.

At the building of the Turksib in December 1928 it resulted in the crash of the Kazakh settlement of Sergiopol. At Karsakpay plant vandalism and drunkenness prospered. At Ridder plant Kazakh workers were not allowed to live in one hostel with the Russians, by the similar qualification paid lesser salary, did not render the medical aid and so on. Stuff turnover was huge.

One of the sources of the replenishment with the working force were the special settlers from the central regions and Siberia. In 1931 about 70 th people located in 25 settlements, basically, in concentrated camps, were resettled to Karaganda. Special settlers did not have right to leave the settlements, worked at the construction of barracks, mines, at the construction of railway. The workers were given 600 gr of bread, and dependents - 300 gr each day. From hunger and illnesses the most part of the settlers died, but instead of them other were brought.

Overall, about 189 th so called “kulaks” were sent to Kazakhstan, from them 150 th – in 1931. All in all by 1937 the number of special settlers reached 360 th people. One more deformed display of the “socialistic industrialization” became the system of camps USPD – PCIA for the provision of cheap work force of huge enterprises. In 1931 Karaganda camp (Karlag) where the repressed from all the regions of the USSR were detained, was created.

During 30-40s in Kazakhstan the whole series of similar camps appear. The republic starts to turn into the gigantic place of exile. As a whole, the results of industrialization are assessed ambiguously. It was realized in the expense of the decrease of the level of life of people, particularly, peasantry.

For five years, in 1929-1934 yy. the significant inflation was evident, the money supply rose by 180%, retail prices for industrial goods grew by 250%-300%. Many points of five-year plan, especially, in light industry were not fulfilled. Nevertheless, the significant growth of the industrial production and increase of the unit weight of industrial production of the economy of Kazakhstan was evident.

Used material:

The textbook "History of Kazakhstan: Textbook for higher educational institutions". 8th ed. Kostanay: Kostanay regional institute of historical research, 2006. – p.350 (pp.293-294)