

## **Source of history of political repression in Kazakhstan**

Today the question of political repressions in the Soviet Union is researched by historians of the whole world. Now there is need for more deep disclosure of pages of history of the totalitarian state. For this purpose, first of all, it is necessary to study comprehensively the historical sources connected to political repressions. There are already numerous historical works, but more in-depth study of sources on this subject will give the chance to open it even more deeply.

For the USSR including Kazakhstan, the 20<sup>th</sup> century was difficult. The new Soviet government that came to the power in a root changed not only society, but also tragically affected destinies of the people. It is a wave of political repressions in days of the totalitarian state. For us, who witnessed the transition of the state from totalitarianism to democracy, it is clear that how tragic was the past system. Unfortunately, it is impossible to change Soviet propaganda in a short time by new ideas and ideology that had been imposed to people many years. It is only possible if accept all values created by mankind to the new and young generation of the independent state. The most tragic period of the Soviet totalitarianism is time of political repressions.

On December 30, 1996 the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev declared "1997 – year of memory of the victims of political repressions" that there was even more important in life of society a value of this subject. From this point the subject of political repressions in the contemporary history of Kazakhstan became the sharpest. Historical works started being published, to be studied sources. However, the subject of political repressions requires further study.

On May 31, 2007 at a ceremonial opening of the museum and memorial complex “ALZHIR”,(Akmolinsk Camp of Wives of Traitors of the Homeland) in Akmolinsk area, the Tselinograd region, the village of Akmol (earlier – village Malinovka), the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev emphasized that new historical perspectives opened and we will realize without fail it. In this regard, it is necessary to study historical sources comprehensively. In spite of the fact that many historical works are written, more deep study of historical sources will lift this subject on higher level. Therefore, it is necessary to open features of sources of the Soviet period, in documents of the Kazakhstan archives.

Sources from archive documents give the chance to open all terrible truth of crimes of the totalitarian state in infringement of human rights for their subsequent rehabilitation. The problem can be opened thanks to new methodological approaches in research of new date of the Soviet period. For this period it is necessary to introduce materials into scientific circulation, direct Kazakhstan archeography to correct course, declassify sources and provide access to

researchers to forbidden materials. In addition, having mastered operation with sources and carrying out a necessary selection to turn to main task. It will intensify the studied research.

Feature of study of sources of the Soviet political repression of the 20<sup>th</sup> century consist in recovering names of illegally destroyed representatives of the intellectuals and opening consequences of the tragedy of the ordinary people. Together with it, bright pages of national liberation fight of the Kazakh people on the way to independence will reveal.

Today, it is very important for history to open the policy of repression pursued by the totalitarian state by studying archive materials. The study, disclose, analysis and synthesis of historical sources will help for full interpretation of study. It is also indisputable and comprehensive investigation of crimes of the Soviet power will give access to study of sources.

In this regard, it is necessary to study thoroughly orders, decrees, representations, business management by different organs. Sources of archives should be studied in national history for disclose of a subject. The big problem is that the documents connected to political repressions are insufficiently published and unavailable. Thus, in comparison with other periods, documents of Soviet period are insufficiently considered. Many years a large number of unused documents are in different Kazakhstan organizations.

Many problems related to policy of terror of Soviet government will give sources that were introduced into scientific circulation from the central and local archives of the republic.

A lot of materials related to national history are in the state archives of the republic of the period from 1917-1956. Many of these materials are not introduced into scientific circulation yet and wait for the researchers. All this causes the necessity in operation with the sources connected to history of political repressions during the Soviet period.

The most important task of national history is detection of documents forbidden Soviet by the power and guiding of internal and external criticism of sources. Firstly, for this purpose it is necessary to carry out analytical work with archive documents. Further having analyzed source study material, we will be able to start further study of documents. We can apply to research, the fundamental, theoretical and methodological problems of a source study which permanently are replenished.

Sources, which had been kept in state archives about a policy of terror of the Soviet government which gradually developed into mass political repressions, solve many problems and give the chance to introduce many new materials into scientific circulation. They have been made by: Archive of the President of

Kazakhstan, Central State Archive of Kazakhstan and also regional archives of Karaganda, Akmolinsk, Almaty, Dzhezkazgan, Kostanay, East Kazakhstan, Atyrau, Aktyubinsk, Pavlodar and Chimkent. Important documents are materials of Committee of legal statistics and the special accounting of the Prosecutor General's Office of Kazakhstan. Memories of children and relatives of that part of the intellectuals which underwent political repressions, including representatives of Alash Horde, and also documents of labor camps are stored in the Presidential Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The materials relating to the government competent authorities are stored in the Central State Archive.

Karaganda regional state archive is the largest of local archives. The documents concerning regional force organs and also documents about Karaganda labor camp are stored in this archive. In branch of archive of Committee of legal statistics and the special accounting of the Prosecutor General's Office of Kazakhstan the fund with personal records of the condemned is created. Materials about the first years of "red terror" connected with the first years of the Soviet power in Akmolinsk area, and also labor camps in post-war period are found and revealed in Akmolinsk regional archive.

The most part of documents is made by memories, memoirs on fight against a policy of Bolsheviks and about repressions. On an equal basis with them, the following part of sources is represented by the Kazakhstan-Russian collections of documents. Presidential archive of Kazakhstan published the largest number of documents.

About prosecutions of representatives Alash by the Soviet power included in collections of the documents "Protocols of Revolutionary Committee on Control of the Kazakh Edge (1919-1920)", in 2-4 volumes of compositions "Movements Alash", and activities of republican government body and a problem of "big terror" are considered in books: "Political repressions in Kazakhstan in 1937-1938" and additional materials in "History of Kazakhstan of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in documents" [1]. The institutions published the collection of documents concerning stories of deportation of the separate people.

The materials relating to this subject are published also by teachers and lecturers of higher education institutions. For example, the collection of documents "Red terror: political history of Kazakhstan" was published [2]. In the shorthand report are presented in the full form of performance in the debate connected to issuing of the historian, personal records from archive of Committee for State Security of Kazakhstan are published in the second book.

Materials of regional state archives are also planned to be released. The Karaganda State Archive together with Karaganda city branch of Committee of legal statistics and the special accounts the Prosecutor General's Office of Kazakhstan. Some documents are published in works "I am with you till the end of time. Some

documents are published in works: "I with you in all days till the end of time. Hard times of persecutions and repression of 1931-1946"; "Prisoners of ALZHIR (the list of women – Akmolinsk prisoners and other separations of Karlag)"; "Special immigrants in the Karaganda region" [3], the Pavlodar Regional State Archive "It is not subject to oblivion"; Chimkent Regional State Archive "Kostunay district, 1917-1919"; Aktyubinsk regional state archive "The People Deported to Kazakhstan" [4]. The listed collections of documents consider different sides of political repressions.

Kazakhstan historians open some separate sides of a criminal policy of the Soviet power more often. Generally, it is connected to such reforms as confiscation, collectivization, subsidence, "big terror" of 1937-1938, prosecutions of the intellectuals in 1940-1950, deportation and resettlement of the people. In this regard, the sections of documents connected to a subject of political repressions fell out. For example: such as "red terror", repressive operation of official bodies in Kazakhstan, Kazakhstan corrective-labor camp, special camp and a prisoner-of-war camp, etc. It was due to the fact that insufficiently introduced into scientific circulation the documents connected to political repressions. Historians did not compare sources of the central and local archives. They used only the central archive, or only local archives. One thing remained unexecuted it was very important part: it is a link between central and local archives, comparison of documents and organization their analysis.

Materials of regional archives were not introduced into scientific circulation. Thus, documents had the narrow direction. Especially as declassification of the Kazakhstan archives began only in the second half of 90's. Up to now theoretical and methodological direction of the Soviet period has been insufficiently investigation. Special study of documents of the Soviet era was not carried out; also internal and external criticism of sources is not opened. Thus, we believe that today there is a big task of further study of archive sources of the Soviet period.

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