

Social Modernisation of Traditional Societies



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In present times, with Kazakhstan going through socio-economic and political modernisation, providing for the creation of an open society, democratic and peaceful state, significantly increases interest in the social history of the twentieth century.

In the Soviet period, the creation of a qualitatively new social structure, purposeful based on fundamentally different ideologies of the economy, political system and culture, was accompanied by the ambiguous effects of changes on an unprecedented scale to traditional ways, social relations and the mentality of the Kazakh society. This is an appeal for the study of this unique and lasting influence of experience and the need to understand the overall trends in the social transformation of the Eurasian multicultural environment, the relationship of general and special modernisation and tradition.

The scientific novelty of the study is as follows:

By summarising the major historiographical results systematised traditional and new theoretical and methodological approaches can propose new ideas and conclusions for conceptual and source understanding of selected issues;

The creative use of theoretical science, especially the concept of modernisation, for the first time presents a complex and systematic analysis of the transformation of ethno-social, political, legal and cultural dimensions of the Kazakh society in the period of the Soviet state (1920-1936).

The studying of a large number of different representative sources established the basic typological features and mechanisms of managing the formation of new types of Soviet identity and solidarity for the social and political activity of the masses through new mass organisations;

The evolution of the system of public organisations in Kazakhstan in the 1920s and 1930s, analysed in the context of the administrative command system and the mobilisation of the economy, has established and demonstrated its role as a major instrument of social consolidation of the national mass;

Established and analysed the conflicting results of social and political engineering and the formation of the Soviet type of citizenship that led to the original interweaving of tradition and modernity in the Kazakh society by the middle of the twentieth century;

Qualitatively the new role of institutions of enlightenment and education and the spiritual culture transformation of gender relations are shown for the first time through the focus on social modernisation of the Kazakh society;

It was found that the deliberate and large-scale multi-dimensional socio-cultural politics of power in the years 1920-1936 provided controversial civic and nation building restructuring of social relations in Kazakh society, and growth of the social activity of the masses, while at the same time, the archetype of ethno-national culture discovered stability and high adaptability.