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### ЭТНОЛОГИЯ. АНТРОПОЛОГИЯ

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#### Akmaral Ospanova<sup>1</sup>, Baglan Shoraev<sup>2</sup>

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### FORCED DEPORTATION OF PEOPLES TO KAZAKHSTAN

**Abstract.** The totalitarian system that dominated during the Soviet period forcibly displaced many nationalities and ethnic groups from their historical homeland, causing great damage to their unity and integrity, cultural and social development, pursuing a policy of ideological arbitrariness (dictatorship). Soviet leaders forcibly deported to the territory of Central Asia, accusing the Crimean people of active cooperation with the German invaders in order to strengthen the central political power. The Crimean Peninsula was the main tourist center of the USSR and one of the regions of high political importance.

This scientific article, written on this basis, presents historical data on the state of the population on the Crimean Peninsula before the deportation, on the change of names of cities in Crimea, on how the process of forced displacement was carried out, based on archival data. The detrimental consequences of the forced displacement of peoples to the territory of Kazakhstan and the impact on the national composition of the Kazakh people are analyzed. In the second half of the 20th century, attempts by the peoples of Crimea to return to their homeland, the socio-economic situation of the population after resettlement to the territory of Kazakhstan, and their contribution to the modern development of Kazakhstani society were considered.

During the actual study of the article, archival data were used. Historical scientific methods of analysis and synthesis of scientific data, historical and comparative analysis, classification, systematization, etc. were also used.

**Keywords:** Deportation, The Crimean Tatars, Kazakhstan, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, The Second World War.

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#### Қазақстанға күштеп қоныс аударған ұлттар тарихы

**Андатпа:** Кеңестік кезеңде үстемдік құрған тоталитарлық жүйе көптеген ұлттар мен этникалық топтарды тарихи отанынан күштеп көшіріп, олардың бірлігі мен тұтастығына, мәдени- әлеуметтік дамуына орасан зор зиянын тигізіп, идеологиялық өктемдік жасау (диктат) саясатын жүргізді. Кеңестік басшылар орталық саяси билікті нығайту мақсатында Қырым халқына неміс басқыншыларымен белсенді ынтымақтастық орнатты деген айып тағып, Орталық Азия территориясына күштеп депортация жасаған болатын. Қырым түбегі КСРО-ның негізгі туристік орталығы және саяси маңыздылығы жоғары аймақтардың бірі болды.

Осы негізде жазылған бұл ғылыми мақалада Қырым түбегіндегі халықтың депортацияланғанға дейінгі жағдайы, Қырымдағы қала атауларының өзгеріске ұшырауы, күштеп қоныс аудару процесінің қалай жүзеге асқандығы туралы тарихи мәліметтер архив деректері негізінде ұсынылған. Қазақстан территориясына ұлттарды күштеп қоныс аударудың зиянды тұстары мен қазақ халқының ұлттық құрамына тигізген әсері талданған.

XX ғасырдың екінші жартысында қырым халықтарының отанына қайтып оралуы үшін жасаған талпыныстары, халықтың Қазақстан аумағына қоныс аударғаннан кейінгі әлеуметтік экономикалық жағдайы, олардың Қазақстан қоғамының бүгінгі дамуына қосқан үлесі қарастырылған.

Мақаланы деректік тұрғыда зерттеу барысында архив деректері басшылыққа алынды. Сондайақ, ғылыми деректерді талдау және синтездеу, тарихи-салыстырмалы талдау, классификациялау (топтау), жүйелеу т.б. тарихи ғылыми әдістері қолданылды.

Түйін сөздер: Депортация, Қырым татарлары, Қазақстан, КСРО, екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс. Сілтеме үшін: Оспанова А., Шораев Б.Қазақстанға күштеп қоныс аударған ұлттар тарихы // Қазақ тарихы электронды ғылыми журналы. 2024. Т. 182. No 2. 44-54-бб. (ағылшын тілінде.). DOI: https://doi.org/10.62183/2024-2-2-44-54

#### Introduction

The totalitarian system, that dominated the Soviet era, forcibly evicted many nations and ethnic groups from their historical homeland, pursued a policy of ideological dictatorship and caused a great damage to their unity and integrity, as well as cultural and social development. At that time, Soviet leaders sought to consolidate political power in the central and regional regions, forcing more than 50 nations to flee. Public figures and oppressed nations have been subjected to unfounded accusations and repressive policies. Deported nationalities in the Soviet Republics were also banned from following their centuries-old traditions. Nations separated from their relatives and could no longer speak their mother tongue. This, firstly, paralysed their use of language, religion and culture, and secondly, had a great impact on their development as a nation. The forced relocation operation took place during World War II. In 1946, the total number of deportees in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reached 2,463,940 (compared to 2,826,419 in other sources) (Kozhakhanova, 2007: 27). Their deportation to the Republic of Kazakhstan amounted to 1,200,000 people (ibid).

The history of political persecutions and the issue of innocent deportations have been kept in secret during the Soviet era. Furthermore, conducting a research on these problems was censored; it was forbidden to mention them in the press. Only in the late 1980s, after the collapse of the USSR, as a result of large-scale democratic processes, previously forbidden facts were studied and historically important issues were raised. It was possible to conduct research on the deported peoples and their fate, and to open long-secret archival documents. During these years, scientific conferences on the irreplaceable consequences of the Soviet policy of forced resettlement were presented, and the first materials and monographs were published (Kozhakhanova, 2007: 29).

One of the victims of such forced migration was Crimean Tatars. By the decision of the Supreme Government, on May 18, 1944, the Crimean Tatars were severely punished by the military authorities upon the accusations as "enemy" and so-called "necessary measures" were used against this group. Many historical sources show that Stalin's heavy sword affected the elder people, women as well as innocent children (Almaty, 1998: 293).

The history of Tatars deportation began to be published after the collapse of the Union. It was connected to the political pluralism and other nationalist movements in the late 1980s. One part of the literature was connected to the reshaping of national identities of post-Soviet nations (Korostelina, 2003: 141). Others concentrated on witnesses, the archival information and memories of Tatar victims (Campana 2008). Otto Pohl (2000) stated that one of the reasons of deportation was Soviet foreign policy regarding the Middle East, particularly concerning Turkey. Soviet leaders feared that historical ties between Turkic nations and Turkey would destroy the loyalty of Soviet Turkic Republics (Pohl 2000). Thus, the Leaders wanted to prevent any espionage, sabotage and diversion within the Union. Apart from the archival and memorial studies, some authors tried to connect the fate of Tatars with theoretical concepts of direct, cultural and structural violence and cases of categorical violence developed by Johan Galtung (Galtung 1969). Korostelina refreshed the history of Crimean Tatars deportation and compared it with the recent Russian occupation of Crimea. According to her, it was a case of categorical violence where the violence was based on social category (ethnic, religious, gender, etc.) attributed to a group (Korostelina 2015: 33).

This paper takes a descriptive style and reviews archival statistics and information on Crimean Tatars deportation. It is based on empirical study of archival documents in the State Archives of the city of Almaty. The main research question of the paper is to reveal the trajectory of Crimean Tatars deportation to Kazakhstan and their socio-economic condition based on official documents. The initial parts of the articles contain information of Crimean people in the pre-deportation times, the main reasons and process of deportation, and their resettlement in the regions of Kazakhstan. The conclusion of the article provides information about modern state of Tatars

in Kazakhstan through description of their cultural centres and overall social activities.

#### Materials and methods

In the course of the thematic scientific research, Kazakh historians: K.K. Kojakhanova, Song Yeehun, F.Z. Rajepaeva, M.Ch. Kalybaeva's scientific works related to the history of deportation were used. These scientific works provide information about the contribution to the development of Kazakhstan and the socio-political history of the peoples deported to the territory of Kazakhstan, and analyze it on a scientific basis.

The monographs that helped in the in-depth study of the research topic from a documentary point of view: are "History of the Deported People of Kazakhstan (1937-1956)" and "Deported People of Kazakhstan: Time and Fate". In this scientific monograph written about the deported nationalities, the people migrating to the territory of Kazakhstan are individually addressed, information about their condition after their arrival in Kazakhstan is analyzed, their social impact on the society of Kazakhstan is determined, and their historical importance is revealed.

In the formation and development of the historiography of the deportation issue, including the policy of forced deportation of the Crimean Tatars, based on which order the measures of forced deportation were carried out, N.F. We can see it from the archive data collection "Deportation of peoples of Crimea" by Bugai. The difference between this scientific work from other works is that it is a col-

lection of data obtained from previously secret archives. This work is a fundamental work that contributed to the study of the process of deportation of people.

During the research of the scientific article, scientific monographs and articles based on archival data were guided, and information from the statistical agency, archival materials, as well as reliable Internet resources were used.

#### **Discussion**

In 1921, the Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic of Crimea was established and legally incorporated into the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic. In addition to Tatars, Russians, Ukrainians, Greeks, Bulgarians, Armenians and other nationalities lived on the territory of the republic. As of April 1, 1940, there were 1.126,800 people in the Republic of Crimea, including 218,000 Tatars. In the early years of the war, 90.000 people joined the Red Army from Crimea, including 20,000 Crimean Tatars (State Archive of the Russian Federation (further SARF). f. 9401, l. l. c. 2191, p. 36-37). The state languages of the territory of the Crimean ASSR (as part of the RSFSR) were Russian and Tatar languages. The number of people working in rural councils in the region was: Russians – 207, Tatars – 144, Germans – 37, Jews – 14 (Bugai, 2002: 69, see Table 1).

From these data, we can see from the 1939 census that in the pre-deportation period, only one-fifth of the population of the Crimean Peninsula was Crimean Tatars.

The Ukrainian	154.120	13,7%
The Armenians	12.179	1,1%
The Tatars	218.179	19,4%
The Germans	51.299	4,6%
The Jewish People	65.452	5,8%
The Bulgarians	15.353	1,4%
The Greeks	20.652	1,8%
Others	29.276	2,6%
Total	1. 126.385	100%

As soon as Crimea was completely liberated from German occupation in April 1944, the question of how to eliminate German supporters became the basis for the decision to completely deport the nations. On this basis, the Crimean Tatars were accused of being allied with Nazi Germany during the World War II. Resolution No. 5859 of the USSR State Defense Committee "On Crimean Tatars" was issued to evacuate them from their territory and place them in Uzbekistan. On the basis of this decree, the process of deportation of the Crimean people began.

On May 10, 1944, Deputy People's Commissar of Internal Affairs of the USSR Lavrentiy Beria in his report to Stalin described the decision to deport the Tatar people from Crimea: "Given the betrayal of the Crimean Tatars by the Soviet people, the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the USSR (PCIA -NKVD) requests, with your consent, deportation all Tatars from Crimea to the outskirts of the Soviet Union. It is planned to resettle Crimean Tatars in the regions of the Uzbek SSR and involve them in collective and state farms of the republic in agricultural work, as well as in production and transport. The issue of resettlement of the Tatar population is planned in the Uzbek SSR with the consent of the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Yusupov According to official data, Crimea currently has a population of 140-160 thousand people. The resettlement operation will begin on May 20-21 and end on June 1. I ask for your decision by submitting a project resolution" (SARF. f. 9401, l. 1, c. 2191, p. 37).

From these data we can see that the process of deportation of Crimean Tatars was carried out systematically and purposefully. On the basis of the decree, the deportation of Crimean Tatars was ordered to be completed by June 1, 1944. However, the USSR (NKVD)<sup>1</sup>, led by Lavrentiy Beria, carried out such a complex operation in three days. The operation began on the morning of May 18, 1944, was completed on May 20 at 4:00 p.m. The NKVD personnel needed 70 echelons of 50 wagons to carry out the case in 60 hours. In order to implement this measure, the People's Commissar for Internal Affairs, the People's Commissariat of State Security ordered to send 5.000 specialised personnel and 20,000 members of the Internal Troops, 11 rifle regiments, battalions and a private sniper company. Preparations

for the resettlement were carried out quickly and in an organised manner. On May 7, B. Kobulov and I. Serov asked for 2,000 trucks to resettle the Crimean people in the telegram to the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs (Bugai, 2002). An operational census was conducted and the headquarters for the operation in Simferopol started its work. On May 13, a commission of the organisation and management of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR visited and registered the livestock, agricultural products and other belongings of deported peoples. In two days, in mid-May 1944, in accordance with the order of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, the State Commission allocated about 20,000 people, 2,000 trucks and 1,500 tons of petrol for the deportation of the Crimean SSR in two days (Bugai, 2002: 86). During the operation, by the evening of May 18, 90,000 Crimean Tatars had been mobilised along the railway and 19 echelons had been sent. The next day, the number reached 140,000 of whom 119,424 were sent to the Eastern region in 44 echelons. As of the evening of May 19, the number of those sent to the Eastern region had reached 136,412 people (Aitzhanova, 2014: 20). All measures of the operation to resettle the Crimean Tatars were reported directly to the State Defense Committee. On May 19, 1944, People's Commissar of Internal Affairs of the USSR Lavrentiv Beria reported to I. Stalin and V. Molotov as: "By the end of May 19, 165,515 people will be delivered to railway stations, 136,412 people were sent to destinations. The operation is ongoing" (Bugai, 2002: 84).

In the course of three days, the nation went into exile. The resettlement was continued on May 20, 1944. On the same day, B. Kobulov and I. Serov informed Lavtentiy Beria as following: "According to your order of May 18, the operation to resettle the Crimean Tatars ended today, May 20, at 16:00. 191,044 representatives of the Tatar nation of the Crimean SSR were expelled" (Bugai, 2002: 89).

According to the memories of those who were among the deportees, on that day the sleeping population in the middle of the night were forced to resettle by Soviet government soldiers and officers. They were loaded onto freight cars for a total of 15-20 minutes. Many men have been drafted into the labour force for fear of retaliation. There were 40 people in each car. Witnesses remembered that protesters and those unfit to walk were immediately shot dead. Many people died because they were not given food and water. They

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs

have travelled in this condition for twenty days. Crimean Tatar activists estimated that 46 per cent of those deported died in the early years of deportation (Babaliev, 2014: 29).

The Crimea was a resort of the USSR, and for many years it was a touristic place. Agriculture in the region was flourishing, and the climate condition was appropriate for any kind of production. Therefore, Hitler planned to settle Germans there (Almaty, 1998: 296). The German occupation of the territory of Crimea lasted a long time: from late October 1941 to April-May 1944. Their separatist efforts to this end have provoked animosity among the Crimean Tatars. People in the Nazi-occupied territories were accused of "actively cooperating with the enemy" (Bugai, 2002:70).

Resolution of the State Defense Committee of the Kremlin №5859 "On Crimean Tatars" of May 11, 1944, condemned the Crimean Tatars and provided evidence of their forced relocation: "During the Great Patriotic War (World War II), many Crimean Tatars betrayed the Motherland. They left Red Army unit, and Crimean defenders sided with the opposition. Tatar troops sided with the Germans and fought against the Red Army. During the occupation of Crimea by Nazi troops, Crimean Tatars participated in German punitive detachments, brutally oppressed Soviet guerrillas, and helped the German occupiers to massacre Soviet troops and organise the abduction of Soviet troops as slaves to the Germans. Crimean Tatars actively cooperated with the German invaders, and the "Tatar National Committee" took part in organised German intelligence." (Aitzhanova, 2014: 21)

One of the first historians to study the Crimean Tatars – A. M. Nekrich described the main reasons for the deportation of Crimean Tatars, by stating unreliable information were used as the main accusation of all Tatars. This unreliable information starts with the false accusation that, during the occupation, the Crimean Tatars collaborated with the German invaders. The primary policy of the invaders was to establish contacts with the Tatar nation in Crimea, they formed a "Muslim committee", part of the Tatar people participated in the "self-defense detachment" and other military structures. Second, (unreliable information) guerrilla commanders made the main accusations that the Crimean-led Crimean Regional Committee of the CPSU (b) and the government of the Crimean ASSR cooperated with the Tatars in the guerrilla movement (Almaty, 1998: 295).

In July 1942, the leader of the Crimean guerrilla movement A.N. Mokrousov and A.V. Martynov send a written report to the Commander of the South-Western Front – S. M. Buden, and denounced Tatars by saying that "most of the Crimean Tatars in the mountains and mountainous areas joined the Nazis" (Bugai, 2002: 85).

On May 10, 1944, the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the USSR, Lavrentiy Beria wrote to Stalin by noting that: "The People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs and the People's Commissariat of State Security are clearing Crimea of its enemies and deporting traitors, deportees, accomplices of the Nazi occupiers and anti-Soviet elements. On May 7, 5,995 people were arrested on similar charges. 5.995 illegally stored rifles, 337 machine guns, 250 submachine guns, 31 mortars and a large number of grenades and ammunition cartridges were confiscated from the population. In 1944, more than 20,000 Tatars from the Red Army betrayed their homeland and left others in a difficult situation. They joined the German army and fought against the Red Army (SARF f. 9401, 1.1, c. 65, p. 41-44).

All these accusations were the main reasons for the forced deportation of the Crimean people. Another reason was the accusation that the "Muslim Committee" was supporting the German invaders. It was in the report of April 22, 1944, written by B. Kobulova and I. Serova's: "On 10th and 27th of April, 1944, 497 agents of the Muslim Committee, including Ismailov Ayas – the chairman of the Muslim Committee of Karasubazar district, Batalov B. - the Head of the Muslim committee of Balaklav district, Ableizov B. – the head of the Muslim committee of Simperopol district, Aliyev Musa the head of the Muslim committee of Lozuy district were arrested. The main motto of all of them was that "Crimea is only for Tatars." In June 1943, the "Tatar National Center" was established in Germany, and Bekir Balik came to get acquainted with the work of the Crimean Muslim Committee. In Sudak, the district chairman of the Muslim Center B. Umerov was arrested. Umerov's volunteer detachment took part in the war against the Red Army in Feodosiy district, at the hands of which 12 Red Army soldiers were killed "(Bugai, 2002: 84) These accusations led to the decision to expel the Tatars from Crimea.

According to Beria's deputies, B. Kabulov and I. Serov, Beria urged Stalin to report that the Crimean Tatars were traitors. It is true that they served the Germans in the occupied territories. However, not

only Tatars, but also Russians, Ukrainians, Belarusians and others served them. The fate of the Crimean Tatars was decided by the words of high-ranking officials without in-depth investigation. Accusations that an entire nation had aided the Germans, even if only a part of the population, or only a few, had served the invaders, should not have been a reason to declare the entire population a "traitor" or to evict them completely in a short time (Son En Khun, 2010: 37).

To date, it is difficult to give a full and accurate answer to these allegations. For example, in a report sent to Beria by Kobulova and Serova, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the People's Commissariat, on April 22, 1944, it was stated that "a spy-sabotage espionage (saboteur) residency established in 1941 was found in the Evpator sector" (SARF. f. 9401, l. 1, c. 2191, p. 37). However, such definitions are one of the measures that require very careful study. Representatives of the Crimean Tatar public movement also deny many of the allegations

Despite these accusations during the war, during World War II, the Crimean Tatars, like other peoples in the USSR, were equally active in the guerrilla movement in the Red Army. Commander of the 8th guerrilla detachment Tatar M. Aliyev had 138 people under his command, including 48 Russians, 38 Crimean Tatars, 28 Azerbaijanis, 13 Ukrainians, 5 Armenians and others. Two commissioners of the same three guerrilla groups in Crimea were Crimean Tatars. Several guerrilla groups were led by commanders from the Crimean Tatars. For example, the 3rd Red Army guerrilla group was led by Ablyaz Aedinov, and the Balashev guerrilla group was commanded by Gafar Gaziev, who died in the war in 1942. Crimean Tatars also dominated the Sudak guerrilla group (SARF. f. 9401, l. 2704, c. 38, p.17). However, although the contribution of the peoples of the Soviet Union to the guerrilla movement has been extensively studied, the contribution of the Crimean Tatars to the war has not been studied in depth.

On June 30, 1945, by the order of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, the Crimean SSR was renamed the Crimean Oblast, and on February 19, 1954, it became part of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic.

Crimea was a fertile region and the centre of all-Union sanatoriums. In this case, the forcible

resettlement of Crimean Tatars from their historical territory and the cleansing of the region from ethnic minorities such as Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks, etc., would turn Crimea into a mono-ethnic character. A similar situation occurred in the so-called fertile regions of Meskhetia (Bugai, 2002).

After the deportation of 191,044 Tatars from the Crimean Soviet Socialist Republic, the process of forcible resettlement of Bulgarians, Greeks and Armenians began in June. This is evidenced by the report that the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the USSR Lavrentiv Beria wrote to Stalin on May 29, 1944: "There are 12,075 Bulgarians, 14,300 Greeks and 9,919 Armenians living in Crimea. The vast majority of Bulgarians live between Simferopol and Feodosei and Dzhankov districts. There are 80 and 100 Bulgarians in 10 village councils. During the German occupation, the vast majority of Bulgarians supplied bread and other foodstuffs to German troops. Together with the German army, they fought against the Red Army and received a "security certificate" on the orders of the Germans". The Germans organised a police force from the Bulgarians. The majority of Crimean areas are predominantly Greek. The vast majority of Greeks had contacts with the occupiers in trade and small industry. The German leadership assisted them in trade and transport goods. In the Crimean regions, the Armenian ethnic group also dominated in terms of numbers. The Armenian Committee, together with the Germans, took part in the organisation of anti-Soviet activities. In Simferopol, under the leadership of General Dashkan Dro, there was a German intelligence organisation called Dromedan. Several Armenian committees have been set up to spy on the Red Army for intelligence purposes. Armenian national committees have been actively involved in the "Independent Armenia" campaign for emigrants from Berlin and Istanbul. They founded the "Armenian Religious Association", an organisation that deals not only with religious and political issues, but also with trade and small industry among Armenians. This organisation especially helped the German army to meet its needs. Armenian organisations were created at the expense of the Armenian society under the name "Armenian Legion". The People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs believes that all Bulgarians, Greeks and Armenians in the territory of Crimea should be relocated on purpose" (SARF. f. 9401, l. 2, c. 65, p.162-163).

Lavrentiy Beria in a letter to Stalin of June 4, 1944, stated that the resettlement of Tatars, Bulgarians, Greeks and Armenians from Crimea had been completed. A total of 225,009 people were resettled, including Tatars - 183,155, Bulgarians - 12,242, Greeks - 15.040, Armenians - 9,621, Germans – 11,119 people. 151,604 of Tatars were placed in the Uzbek SSR. On May 21, 1944, in accordance with the decision of the State Defense Committee, 31,551 were deployed in the districts of Russia" (Aitzhanova, 2014). Thus, the entire Crimean population was completely expelled from the Crimean peninsula and migrants from Ukraine started to be attracted to this region. In June 1944, 1,096 families (4.286 people) from the Crimean Soviet Socialist Republic were deported to the Guryev region (Atyrau) of the Kazakh SSR. Bulgarian, Armenian, Greek Gypsy, Tatar and Karaim population from the Old Crimea, Ichin, Sudak, Feodosiy districts were divided and settled in five districts (Aitzhanova, 2014).

#### Results

In May 1944, 191,044 Tatars were expelled from the Crimean Peninsula. The vast majority of those persecuted were deported to the Uzbek SSR, a small part to Tajikistan, Mari Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and to the Kostroma region, whereas 4,501 people were deported to the Kazakh SSR (Broŝevan and Tygliânc, 1994: 85). In particular, they were settled in Ust-Kamenogorsk, Zyryanovsk, Ayakoz, Grubokoy, Kurchum, Ulan, Urjar districts of East Kazakhstan region, as well as in Karaganda region and the southern regions. Today Tatars live in South Kazakhstan, Almaty oblast, Zhambyl oblast and in the city of Almaty. Almost all of the settlers were located in villages and worked in agri-

culture. Those who moved to Karaganda were employed at the Karagandaugol mine (Almaty, 2008: 40). On August 20, 1949, 21 families (37 people) were settled in the territory of Karaganda region. According to the documents of the Voroshilovsky district administration, the special settlers of 1948-1952 were replenished with Crimean Tatars. They were released from KarLAG and registered in penitentiary institutions. However, it is difficult to know the exact number of Crimean Tatars released from the KarLAG from the state archives (Bugai, 2002; 72).

There are almost no statistics on which regions Crimea Tatars were actually settled in Kazakhstan. In the post-war years, the concept of Crimean Tatars gradually disappeared in Kazakhstan, and Crimean Tatars were considered together with the local Tatar ethnos (SARF f. 9401, 1.2, c.65, p. 49).

After the deportation of Crimean Tatars, according to the Decree of Supreme Council of the USSR dated 1945 and 1948, Tatar names of all settlements in Crimea were abolished and renamed, except for Bakshasarai, Dzhankoi, Ishuni, Saki and Sudak. New residents were brought to Crimea from all over Russia. Literatures in the Crimean Tatar language in libraries and private collections have been destroyed. After the resettlement of the Tatar nation from Crimea, special practical measures were taken to rid Crimea of the remnants of Tatar culture (Bugai, 2002: 78).

On August 21, 1945, in accordance with the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR (№619 / 3) on the reorganisation of the Crimean rural council, 10 village councils were renamed in Azov district, 10 in Alushtin district, 19 in Kuibyshev district, 10 in Yaltin district (Almaty 1998: 297). Below are the new names of the renamed village councils (Table 2):

<b>Table 2</b> – (	Changes of	Names o	of the (	Crimea	Cities.	(Bugai	2002: 78)

Previous name	New name
Korbek	Izobil'noe
Kuru-Ozen'	Solnechnogorskoe
Kuchuk-Lambet	Kiparisnoe
Ulu-Ozen'	General'skoe
Biuyk-Ozenbash	Schastlivoe

The famous Russian writer Konstantin Paustovsky described the situation with the renaming of places as "disregard for the people, the nation" (Almaty, 1998: 297). In the Crimean capital, Simferopol, a street named after the first chairman of the Central Executive Committee, Nariman Narimanov, was renamed to Partizan Petrichenko Street. The street named after Mustafa Subhi, a prominent figure in the international revolutionary movement, was renamed to Krylov Street. Also, the name of the cinema named after Mustafa Subhi was changed to "Rodina" (ibid).

Crimean Tatars and Georgians deported to Kazakhstan were in the same predicament as other deportees. First of all, the Government had to provide the settlers with housing, food and arable land. However, the existing lands were previously allocated to deportees and settlers, and there were no available lands (Almaty, 1998: 297). There was a shortage of housing due to the large number of special migrants. They also faced many difficulties in finding employment due to their inability to adapt to the new environment. Therefore, deportees were used for agricultural, industrial work and housing construction (Kozhakhanova, 2007: 34). Wherever they went, their living conditions were poor. It was not easy to build a house, a school or a hospital in the desert. They lived in basements, thatched houses, or barracks together with several families. Illnesses were on the rise, and there were no immediate help. 6,000 Tatar youth were placed in closed, unhealthy military enterprises in Guryev, Rybinsk and Kuibyshev districts (Almaty, 1998: 298). The severity of the humiliation of those who loaded the wagons can also be seen in the fact that the burial of those who died of disease and starvation was not allowed. When the Crimean Tatars were expelled from their lands in 1944, their property worth 2, 446, 000 soms was confiscated, 640 primary and 321 secondary schools were closed. Of the 423 thousand people on board the train, 192,000 died of disease and starvation. They were not given land to build houses (Kozhakhanova, 2007: 43).

Legislative acts and norms of special legal significance for special deportees were strictly observed, and, conversely, issues related to their material needs were not fully resolved. According to the decree №6600 of October 25, 172 tons of flour and 100 tons of potatoes, 8.5 tons of wool and 2,134 pieces of sheep skins were given to the settlers from Crimea. In addition, 30,000 families lived in small

houses. However, 1672 out of 61,835 families placed on collective farms were not admitted to collective farms. 43.512 families could not get a plot of land. In some oblasts and districts, flour and cereals were sent to undesignated areas (SARF f. 9401, 1.2, c.65, p. 50). As a result of food shortages, many settlers became exhausted and weak. Some even starved to death. Due to the lack of materials for the construction of new houses, the deportees were forced to live in old and dilapidated houses (SARF f. 9401, 1.2, c.65, p. 50).

According to data, it is obvious that the state was not ready to welcome the deportees and organise their lives. Food shortages were compounded by housing problems, and the situation of the resettled population worsened with the lapse of time. At the end of 1944, even if the migrants accommodated in Kyzylorda Oblast were provided with labour, they were unable to go to work during the winter due to food shortages and lack of clothing and footwear. The deported people worked on collective farms, state farms, transport, and production facilities. The mortality rate among the peoples deported to Kazakhstan was very high. For this reason, the number of people who emigrated to Kazakhstan varies according to various data, and is often reduced. According to 1945 data, the birth rate among migrants was 8,039 people, the number of deaths was 89,659 people, and the natural increase was 81,620 people (SARF f. 9479, 1.1, c. 436. p. 66-67). Although the situation improved considerably after the end of the war, the deported peoples did not reach their pre-war level condition for a long time. The main reason for the high number of deaths was the lack of medical care in rural areas, and over time, people were dying before they could get permission to leave the village for the city. For 12 years before 1956, the Crimean Tatars had the status of special settlers. They lived under curfew. It is not allowed to move out of the settlement without the written permission of the special commandant's office. Some were even sentenced to 25 years in prison for visiting relatives in a neighbouring village (Aitzhanova, 2014).

The Decree of the All-Union Executive Committee specified certain reasons for deportation. The Criminal Code of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stipulates that, depending on the crime committed, especially those recognised as truly dangerous should be deported or relocated from the territory of the Union by a court decision (Almaty, 1998: 297). A large amount of land was

allocated for the implementation of these measures. In sparsely populated Kazakhstan, efforts were made to concentrate manpower and increase labour resources in order to develop industrial construction and develop its natural resources. In 1939, in order to increase agriculture and replenish the labour force on the collective farms of Kazakhstan, it was decided to resume resettlement from the land-scarce republics and regions of the USSR to the territory of Kazakhstan. The decision once again confirmed the abundant land resources and low population density in Kazakhstan. In August of that year, resettlement organisations were established in the regions of the allied and autonomous republics. On August 16, 1939, the Department of Resettlement was opened under the Council of People's Commissars of the Kazakh SSR (Almaty, 1998:298). From August to October, subdivisions were established under 8 regional executive committees of the Resettlement Department. In total, there were 69 full-time staff members of the Resettlement Department, two of whom had higher education, 41 had secondary education, and 26 had primary education (SARF f. 9479, 1.1, c.896, p.173).

Resettlement has had serious consequences, as it is closely linked to forced collectivisation and forced deportation. The main consequence was the increase in the number of European nations in the republic, and russification process of the population. The Kazakh nation lost its role as a leading nation in the republic, became one of the many nations living in the Kazakh SSR. As evidenced by the decision of the Commission of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Kazakhstan (December 22, 1992), the displacement of population to deserts, excessive taxes, and various campaigns that undermined the national spirit harmed the national privileges of Kazakh people. Percentage of ethnic groups living in Kazakhstan during the war years: Kazakhs - 38%, Russians - 40.2%, Ukrainians - 10.8%, Tatars – 1.7%, Germans – 1.5%, Belarusians – 0.5%, Uighurs -0.6%, Koreans -1.6%, other nationalities – 3.2% (Almaty, 1998: 298). Thus, the predominant ethnic group in the republic was the Russians. Another reason for the resettlement policy was to strengthen the influence of the Center, to implement the policy necessary for the center through the settlers, to prevent the national unification of the republics and to become the full owner of raw materials (Son En Khun, 2010: 45).

In the second half of the 1950s, the fate of individuals and entire nations, who had been innocently persecuted during the years of political struggle have changed. In 1956, the acquittal of victims of political repression began with accusations of other forms of individual worship, and the fate of the deported peoples changed. The Crimean Tatars were not given such an opportunity when the former leaders of the USSR granted the rights to restore and return to homeland for other nations. Crimean Tatars are not allowed to return to Crimea (Razhepova, 2008). Exactly 23 years after the "Forced Resettlement" process, in accordance with the Decree dated September 5, 1967, decision to withdraw an accusation from the Crimea Tatars was adopted (Ensenov, 2003: 54). On the basis of this decree, the Tatar nation was allowed to immigrate to any territory of the Soviet Union and return to their homeland. However, this showed that the state decision remained only declarative in nature. Certain groups of Crimean Tatars have tried to resist local authorities in order to return to their homeland. On January 9, 1974, the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR "On the Abolition of Certain Legislative Acts of the USSR" was issued, but it did not benefit the Crimean Tatars. Only after the perestroika in 1989, under the pressure of social forces during the democratic movement, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Crimean Tatars and the Recognition of Illegal and Criminal Repressions against the Population on November 14, 1989, and accused the political repression of these people (Razhepaeva, 2008: 38). The decision of March 7, 1991 established measures to ensure the observance of the rights of peoples forcibly deported and the repeal of state legislation that led to the dissolution of their national autonomy (Kalybekoba, 2005). Thus, as a result of the constant and uninterrupted struggle of the Crimean Tatars, repressed by the totalitarian system, the process of mass return to Crimea took place. In 1967, there were 207 Crimean people in Crimea, in 1979 there were 13,000 and the numbers increased up to 35,000 in 1989 (Kalybekova, 2005:57). Today, the majority of Crimean Tatars (260.000) live in their historical homeland of Crimea. At the same time, 500,000 Crimean Tatars live in Turkey, 22,000 in Romania, 10,000 in Uzbekistan, 1,800 in Bulgaria, and 4,100 in Russia (excluding Crimea) (Moscow, 2015) (Table 3).

Table 3 – Total Number of Crimea Tatars Nowadays(Crimean Tatars) (Moscow, 2015: 108)

Total number	About 500 thousand – 6,5 mln. People
Living area	In Ukraine – 248, 000 people In Crimea – 243, 000 In Uzbekistan – abou 90-150, 000 people In Turkey – about 500, 000 – 6, 000,000 people In Romania – 24,100 people In Russia – 4,100 people In Kazakhstan – 1,800 people In Bulgaria – 1,800 people
Language	In former USSR – Tatar, Russian, In Turkey, Bulgaria, Romaina – Turkish
Religion	Islamic-Sunnite, hanafi mazhab
Relative people	Kumyks, Karashais, Balkars, Tatars

#### **Conclusion**

Crimean Tatars have made an immeasurable contribution to the economic, socio-cultural development and education of Kazakhstan's society, interacted with the local population and settled in Kazakhstan. Since the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the peoples living in the territory of the republic have been provided with maximum conditions and assistance in the development of their own culture and language of each nation. Currently, there are more than twenty national cultural centers of the Tatar people in different regions of Kazakhstan. The first Tatar organisation, registered on March 6, 1990 by the decision of the City Council №5-274, was established in Semey (Son En Khun, 2010). The founder of the center was Mahmut Abdulkarimov. Since January 13, 1990, the newspaper "Semey Tany" has been publishing poems in the Tatar language on the page "Galiyabanu"(?). The newspaper also published articles on the formation and main issues of the Tatar organisation, Tatar national cuisine and traditions, and the achievements of the organisation (Son En Khun, 2010).

Currently, there are more than 26 Tatar and Tatar-Bashkir national-cultural centres in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The main purpose of the established Tatar society is to promote the Tatar language, culture and traditions among young people and to preserve their national identity. In 1995, with the support of the Assembly of Peoples of Kazakhstan², more than twenty-eight Republican, na-

body in Kazakhstan consisting of delegates of the Regional Assemblies of the People

tional and cultural Tatar organisations were established in Kazakhstan with the support of the Tatar and Bashkir nations. There are 6 cultural centers in West Kazakhstan, 5 in Almaty region, 3 in East Kazakhstan and 2 in Almaty. The largest cultural association of the Tatar nation in Kazakhstan is the "Tatar association and Tatar-Bashkurt social and cultural center "Idel / Edil" in Kazkahstan" (Almaty, 2010). The organisation conducts annual scientific-practical conferences on topical issues of preservation of Tatar culture, organises the republican Sabantui holiday and music festival "Irtysh Music" in Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semipalatinsk. The chairman of «Idel» Association is Murat Karimov, a professor – oncologist, Deputy of Parliament. The organiser of the festival "Irtysh Music" festival is Gabdulkhak Akhunzyanov, head of "Vozrazhdenie" Tatar national association in Semey. There are activities such as "Native language" literary -music club, Folklore and ethnographic ensemble "Istalek", accordion club "Ilgam", literary and musical club "Tugan tel", women's club "Ak kalfak", and the newspaper "Semipalatinsk Tatars" in Semey region ((Son En Khun, 2010). The center also has departments for teaching the Tatar language. In the territory of North Kazakhstan, there are mosques, madrassas, and publication of many Tatar literary works for the spiritual promotion of young people. Graduates continue their education in the universities of Kazakhstan, as well as in Kazan and Moscow, in order to continue their education without any national restrictions. There are Sunday schools teaching the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Assembly of People of Kazakhstan is a national political

Tatar language in Petropavlovsk, Almaty, Pavlodar, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Astana and other cities of Kazakhstan (Razhepaeva, 2005:48).

In conclusion, the resettled Crimean people have made a significant impact on the ethno-demo-

graphic situation of the Kazakhstan. To date, the peoples who have taken refuge in each other during the years of hardship, have become a single multinational community of Kazakhstan, building a state governed by the rule of law.

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#### мазмұны

#### Этнология. Антропология

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