The Struggle Against Illiteracy in Kazakhstan in the 1920’s and 1930’s Years

Gulzhazira Abikenova and Mendigul Nogaibayeva

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan, 140000, Almaty, Al-Farabi av.71

Abstract: Cultural life in Kazakhstan early twentieth century was characterized by contradictory trends and crisis processes. Problems of traditional Kazakh culture without caring of the local unit of the colonial administration. State policy in the field of school and vocational education, science, culture and art, cultural institutions and recreational population of the region was of half-hearted. It was carried out in order to meet the spiritual needs of citizens and immigrants than Kazakhs. Running and the crisis in education hindered the development of the whole culture. Network of schools, their educational facilities and teachers' security personnel remained at a very low level. In this context, this article discusses the problem of establishing the Bolshevik concept, changes the alphabet and its effect on the perception of the indigenous population, the ideological and political struggle of Kazakh intellectuals of.

Key words: Illiteracy • Culture of Kazakhstan • Changing the Alphabet • The Kazakh Intelligentsia

INTRODUCTION

The Cultural Revolution was one of the areas of Lenin's program towards the construction of a socialist society. The Cultural Revolution encompassing all spheres of public life, was aimed at building a new man and a new socialist culture. The Cultural Revolution based on the requirements of the Communist Party included reform in education, science and cultural changes in the business organizations. At this time, the culture of Kazakhstan developed in an atmosphere of suppression of national interests. The bulk of the population owned the Arabic script with great difficulty mastered the socialist policies pursued in the field of cultural transformation. In this regard, the Cultural Revolution was launched in the province was aimed to address two important issues: first, the development of socialist culture, the second, strengthening of socialist education and science, as well as the Soviet system in cultural organizations. In culture, supervision and guidance led Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party in local territories leadership was in the hands of party committees, promoting the Communist ideologists led board. November 6, 1920 in the People's Commissariat started the main political and educational committee. The two party and state authorities began preparing for the Cultural Revolution. In the first decades of the Soviet government began to pursue a policy of gradual introduction of communist views and hold meetings on the issue.

The efforts of the Soviet authorities in the field of traditional public relations, social and economic structure, the local mentality aimed at radical change it. Transformations were scheduled to change the alphabet in the first place and secondly enhanced implementation of concepts of materialism and atheism has caused discontent among the indigenous Muslim population, prompting intensified the struggle of Soviet power. To do this, under the auspices of the V.I. Lenin began to form a new system, which included the opening of schools in addition to clubs, institutions, libraries, museums, Soviet-style. The main purpose of these institutions was the gradual promotion of Soviet ideology and the introduction of a new system of administration of the province. Analyzing the historical processes of 20-30 years. of the twentieth century in this paper set the goal of disclosure policy of the Soviet government in the field of culture and social structure in Kazakhstan. To achieve this goal in the scientific revolution had brought new archival materials, analyzed the essence of the struggle of the Soviet authorities in the field of education and eradication of illiteracy, cleared up the cultural policy [1].

Corresponding Author: Gulzhazira Abikenova, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan, 140000, Almaty, Al-Farabi av.71
The study uses methods such as the principle of historicism, the comparative analysis of historical facts, retrospective analysis of archival materials, a comparative analysis of the institutions of the communist way of life and traditional principles of the indigenous population.

The Establishment of the Bolshevik Concept in the Field of Culture in Kazakhstan: Part of the Bolshevik program of building socialism was the formation of a new culture on the principles of partisanship and class ideology. Even before coming to power, Lenin declared that "every step of the culture was to penetrate Democrats spirit, Democrats culture" [2]. In fairness it should be noted that the cultural policy of the Bolshevik Party was characterized by aggressiveness and focus on achieving concrete results.

Central focus of cultural transformation in the Soviet Kazakhstan was considered public education. In the prewar period, priority was given to the eradication of illiteracy of the population and the creation of the Soviet system of general and vocational education.

First school alphabetic literacy emerged in late 1917 - early 1918. urban Akmolinsk, Aulie-Ata, Vernyi, Semipalatinsk and other localities where there were the necessary conditions and intellectual forces. Great interest in their studies showed themselves illiterate. Widened the scope of work with the end of the Civil War and the formation KazASSR. Much done extraordinary commissions to combat illiteracy arising in 1920 and Kazakh Branch -Union Society "Down with Illiteracy", created in 1924 [3].

Gradually increased the number who have learned to read and write. If the 1922-1923 yy. academic year have mastered the Russian alphabet letter only 4.1 thousand people, in the 1926-1927 yy. academic year - 43.6 thousand people. Rose and the literacy rate of the population: 14.4% in 1920 to 22.5% in 1926 [4].

Under the special attention of the Bolshevik leadership was schooling. Life and activities of Akmola schoolteacher intelligentsia in the first months of the new government colorfully recreated S.Seifullin in the book "thorny path": "All the hard work - he wrote - was entrusted to me. Besides, I did not leave the children's classes at school. Opened an evening school for teenagers and there I had to give lessons. In short, from the morning until late at night, we have been working hard" [5].

Was soon abolished the old system of education, namely, one-class and two-year primary schools, higher primary male and female, mixed schools, preschools and high school, secondary schools, Mariinsky women's college, one-class and two-year Russian - Kazakh school. Established a unified labor school, consisting of 2 stages: the first is for children 8-13 years old, the other for children aged 13-17. Commissariat of the RSFSR its decree "On the minority schools" from October 31, 1918 announced that "all nationalities inhabiting the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic, have the right to provide training in their native language at both stages of labor school and high school" [6].

In the 1920-1921 academic year in the country, there were 2,410 schools. Basically opened schools first stage. And increased enrollment. However, difficulties in school construction was enough. So, in the new economic policy, when the maintenance of schools was transferred to the local budget, the number of primary school students fell from 172 million in the 1921-1922 school year to 114 thousand in the 1922-1923 academic year. In the 1924-1925 academic year, only 12 % of Kazakh children of school age were covered schools first stage. "Schools often do not find suitable premises in the village, according to an official document from Akmola province, crammed into a miserable private daub, sometimes with holes in the roof and without any furniture and lack of teaching aids... not a rare case that as a former teacher invited religious teachers and slightly literate citizens" [7].

However, the totalitarian regime has transformed the school into an instrument of education and ideologically obedient generation. The content of textbooks, activity Pioneer and Komsomol organizations were sent for approval to the minds and behavior of students dogmas of Stalinism, hatred of all non-Soviet, blind faith in the policy and ideology of the party. Of curricula 1930's confiscated books Alashorda and "enemies" A.Baitursynov, S.Asfendiarov, S.Seifullin, H. Dosmukhamedov etc. Famine early 1930's, devastation in Kazakh village, the repression of intellectuals turned tragedy for the national school. Only in the 1935-1936 academic year, the first 11 children graduated from Kazakh high school [8].

Cultural and Educational Work. Art and Literature: Formation of socialist consciousness of man, his devotion to the ideas of the party were the cornerstone of the Bolshevik ideology. The solution to this problem involved clubs, library, museum, reading rooms and other non-formal education institutions.

New power the first thing taken measures to socialization of cultural and educational institutions. In early 1918 Semirechensk regional executive committee,
after hearing the report on librarianship, decided to nationalize all public libraries and declare "their national endowment for educational needs". In April 1918, the County Council announced Kustanai nationalized "cinema the whole economic apparatus" [9].

In Kazakhstan, where school education was virtually absent, a statement of the Bolsheviks and their authorities willingness to assist familiarizing the public to all the wealth of culture, found strong support. Local intellectual forces and ordinary people with genuine enthusiasm set about creating cultural and educational institutions. So, December 27, 1917 in the village Martuk Aktobe county efforts of intellectuals and peasants started cultural and educational circle. On January 1, 1918 members of the group, there were 30 people. They teamed up in two sections: 1) educational section and 2) reasonable entertainment section. Circle opened the library, gave performances. In 1920, the Congress of Educators Kustanai County found "possible open reading rooms in every school". In 1928, the country had 236 libraries with book fund 488.3 thousand copies, 810 clubs, 92 motion picture projectors, 6 museums [10].

Great importance was attached press. On December 17, 1919 became a newspaper "Ushkyn " (now Egemen Kazakhstan), with January 1, 1920 - "Steppe truth" (Kazakhstan Today), with September 1921 magazine "Kyzyl Kazakhstan" (Akikat ). In 1940 in Kazakhstan were published 38 magazines, 9 of them in the Kazakh language and 336 newspapers, 126 of them in the Kazakh language. On the eve of World War II system of adult education was quite ramified: across the country, there were almost four thousand public libraries, more than 5 thousand clubs, 1,3 thousand stationary and mobile cinema units [11].

CONCLUSION

In a totalitarian society, where art, culture is seen as only one of the tools of the "struggle for the implementation of the Party ’s purposes", clearly defined chronological and topical scope of individual freedom and creativity. Priority was given to contemporary subject matter, display "great achievements" of the Soviet people. Obviously were doomed quest for artistic truth in such taboo topics as national liberation uprising Kenesary Kasymov movement "Alash", hunger 20 – 30’s, Stalinist political repression, environmental and demographic disaster. Administrative interference and dictatorship, often erecting barriers to the true talents and gifts, created the conditions for entry into the literature and art of dullness, stamps, conditions and intrigue.

Thus, the Soviet period Kazakhstan culture saturated with important and sometimes dramatic changes and events, wrote one of the brightest pages in the history of our country. In difficult conditions of totalitarianism and ideological dictatorship formed a coherent system of spiritual values???. Intellectual elite of the people has made an invaluable contribution to the world civilization. Culture of Kazakhstan rid December 16, 1991 from the administrative and ideological preconception dictate inherent totalitarian regime has entered a new stage of its development. Today, it serves as a reliable factor in strengthening the independence of the young state.

REFERENCES