Quansheng Zhao Professor

September 15, 2020

Peer-review of the foreign scientific adviser, Professor of the American University, Dr. Zhao Quansheng for the dissertation "China's Policy on the development of North-Western border areas (1949-2015)" prepared by Madiyev Daniyar Aripbayevich, post-graduate student of the Department of Chinese studies of the faculty of Oriental studies of Al-Farabi Kazakh national University, for the degree of doctor of philosophy in the specialty "6D020900-Oriental Studies" (historical Sciences)

Peer-review

I believe that the topic of the dissertation of the doctoral student Madiyev D. A. is based on the study of an important issue. Of particular importance in determining the socio-economic development of China is the study of its backward regions, especially in the field of social development of the border zone that passes into Western Kazakhstan. Since the Xinjiang region is as a periphery with a complex natural environment in which Uyghur and many other ethnic groups live, research work has an important geopolitical and geoeconomic strategic significance. Therefore, the development of social infrastructure in border areas, along with the demonstration of the development of Xinjiang society as a whole, is an indicator of the high level of development of China's relations with Kazakhstan, Central Asia, and even Western countries. Thus, the relevance of this topic of the dissertation devoted to the study of such a complex problem should not be excluded.

The author considers the period of socio-economic development of the Western border zone of China in the period from 1949 to the present. A research area covers the border areas of Xinjiang, adjoining to Kazakhstan. Therefore, we believe that the time and space considered by the dissertation topic were compatible.

The applicant studied the development of the Western border zone of the country in relation to the stages of social development of the PRC as a whole. As well as there were analyzed the policy applied by the CPC Central Committee to the development of the border zone and its results for historical periods and were analyzed changes in policy in 1949-1966, 1966-1978 and since 1978, compared real data on the socio-economic development of

Xinjiang society and the border zone in these years. He also justified the changing place and role of Xinjiang and its border zones in international relations and defined the political and economic aspects of border zone.

Using the method of historical comparative research, the dissertation analyzes the differences in historical and modern social development between Xinjiang and the inner provinces and considers the socio-economic development of Xinjiang as a result of the strategic policy of the Central Committee of the CPC and the Government of Xinjiang "rapid expansion of the western part", "rapid development of Xinjiang", maximizing the infrastructure of border areas, strengthening the protection and security potential of the state territory.

The doctoral student paid great attention to the study of the development of international relations, improving the infrastructure of the border zone in the context of the socio-economic development of Xinjiang. For example, in September 2013, President Xi Jinping announced the importance of the Mega - Project "One Belt-One Road", which was presented during his visit to Kazakhstan, and then, as a result of this led to the development of transport and logistics, the development of international checkpoints in the border zone and contribited to the asdending of international relations."

The author proves that China's development has influenced the development of Xinjiang, as well as accelerated the modernization of its border region's infrastructure. The creation of Free Economic Zones in the border region reveals its positive impact on the development of relations between China and Kazakhstan. A concrete example of this is the creation of the Khorgos free economic zone on the border of China and Kazakhstan. In particular, he analyses of its place and role in relations between the two countries. This indicates the systematic and logical study of the dissertation topic.

The topic studied by D. A. Madiyev is considered valuable due to its novelty. Because until now, we can conclude that no country has comprehensively studied the socio-economic policy pursued by the Chinese authorities in the north-western border region, and no special monographs have been published yet. Therefore, this work can be called as the result of the first research in this area.

Therefore, in order to study this topic, the doctoral student considered the theory of the development of backward regions in the world, the theory and practice of creating free economic zones. Similarly, the view and considerations of well-known scientists of the world regarding the border, border region, and concluding them into his methodology in the study indicate the scientific nature of the work.

The applicant was able to use the most necessary and important documents to study the topic. In particular, he systematically studied the policy and strategic plans for the economic development of the north-western border region of the country, adopted by the Central Committee of the CPC and the State Council in each historical period, analyzed the evolution of the development of border areas and the development of trade and economic relations between China and Kazakhstan and the prospects for its development and finaly summarized scientific conclusions. The work is also based on data published in Chinese and other languages. At the same time, he comes to the conclusion that the Chinese practice in the development of border areas through systematic reforms in the economic and social spheres has become for Kazakhstan economically effective and politically important.

The topic of the dissertation provides systematic and consistent approach, the internal unity of the work is observed in accordance with the requirements. Several new conclusions and approaches have been summarized from the study, and each of the conclusions and provisions made has a high degree of authenticity, which is confirmed by clear arguments. I believe that the new results achieved in the course of the study have their own theoretical and practical value. This is a significant work in Kazakh Chinese Studies.

In conclusion, the topic of the dissertation is a work that raises a topical issue, comprehensively studied, original, theoretical and practical value, written in accordance with the criteria for scientific work, done by Madiyev Daniyar Aripbayevich for getting the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in "6D020900-Oriental Studies" (historical sciences). I propose to openly defend the dissertation for the degree of PhD on the topic China's Policy on the development of North-Western border areas (1949-2015)

Foreign scientific adviser, Professor of the American University Dr. Zhao Quansheng 15.09.2020 y.