

ABSTRACT

Thesis work for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) on the specialty
"6D020900 - Oriental Studies"

Modernization experience of Japan in the context of the political development of
the Republic of Kazakhstan

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In the twentieth century, Japan being a backward feudal country in the past, turned into a democratic state with developed technology complying with modern requirements. Due to the accelerated development, modern Japan is considered one of the highly developed nations. The national traditions are effectively combined in Japan with American and European legal norms.

Intensive development of the Japanese state was under the focused attention of many researchers in history, political sciences, and oriental studies. Therefore, many social and economic and political changes that have occurred in Japan, their analysis and the historical transformation and development of the country have become one of the important topics for Japanese studies. The relevance of this research topic is determined by the increasing interest of Western countries in the history and culture of modern eastern states, in particular, Japan due to searching the ways out of the global spiritual and economic crisis. In foreign policy, Japan's cooperation with the Republic of Kazakhstan strengthens the significance of this research topic.

In the early 1990s, emergence of Japan in the foreign policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan as the main factor was determined by the development of mutual cooperation between the two states. These relations related to strengthening of mutual business integration in various areas of international relations. Therefore, a detailed study of the Japanese political system is required. The thing is that this study will be of theoretical significance for the Kazakhstan oriental studies and of great practical importance for improving the cooperation with this country.

The concept of political modernization considers this process in two models. The model of modernization inherent in the USA and the Western Europe studies the transition to a rational model of the public system related to the internal need for development. Another model of modernization was applied in countries that have been affected by a crisis and aspired to implement a catching-up development model.

General patterns of modernization are seen in many Eastern countries, especially in countries freed from colonial dependence. This type of modernization emerged in Japan. In modern times, Japan went through two successful stages of modernization: modernization during the Meiji period (1867-1911) and the second stage during the period of democratic reforms after the World War II. In the initial period, attempts at modernization were in the form of institutional reforms and subsequently became a great impulse to fundamental social and economic changes.

Reforms of the two periods significantly changed the values of social and political groups.

The comparative analysis of the political modernization of Japan and Kazakhstan is one of the new topics discussed in history and oriental studies. In the last decades of the twentieth century, the weakening of some countries became one of the events worthy for the global trend of political development characterizing the modern processes. This is due to the systemic crisis of totalitarian and authoritarian regimes. Our country is facing various political and other changes related to the transition to the modern civilization conditions of sustainable social and political development together with other post-Soviet states. In addition, this problem is not limited only to the adoption of new social and economic conditions and state building of society, but also relates to adaptation of Kazakhstan people to other social and political aspects of public development and a sustainable world community.

Meanwhile, we should consider that the application of liberal modernization experience of the developed countries, including Japan, in the light of the political development of the Republic of Kazakhstan, will affect forming of a positive and sustainable image of our country in a globalizing world.

The modern political experience of social and political changes and reforms of many post-Soviet states is evidenced by a combination of democratic and authoritarian features and trends in the development of transitional political systems. Therefore, it is difficult to classify these systems in modern political science. The current situation in the political management system indicates an increase in scientific and practical interest with combination of political modernization and tradition in Japan. This has become an important issue that needs to maintain cultural and political coherence, as well as in-depth and comprehensive research towards the renewal of the Japanese society in the state. In a globalizing world, Japan's modernization experience is also needed to form the political dialogue between Japan and Kazakhstan.

Object of the thesis work is the acquisition of modernization features of Japan to understand the traditional Japanese society, the modernization processes of Kazakhstan and Japan.

Subject of research. System analysis of the Japanese political system features based on formation and development of modernization, possibility of applying the modernization experience of Japan in Kazakhstan.

Purpose of the thesis work comes out of the relevance of this work and consists in analyzing the problems and possibilities of applying the modernization experience of Japan in Kazakhstan.

Based on the determined purpose, the following goals were set:

1. Determine the conceptual foundations of the modernization theory;
2. Analyze the theoretical concepts of modernization processes in Kazakhstan and Japan;
3. Identify the process of political modernization of Japan and its results;

4. Based on the "Wa" principle, evaluate the strategy of tradition and modernization dialogue of the Japanese society;

5. Show the development trend of political parties in the Japanese model of modernization;

6. Analyze the governmental form in the Republic of Kazakhstan and Japan;

7. Consider the neoliberal techniques of the ruling party of Japan and how to use them in the "NurOtan" party;

8. Determine the possibilities of applying the experience of the public service of Japan to improve the public service of Kazakhstan.

Chronological scope of work covers the Meiji period (1867-1868) up to the present day. There are moments of recourse to history for the proper analysis of the modernization processes of Kazakhstan and Japan.

Theoretical and Methodological Basics. Approaches of a comprehensive analysis and synthesis of documents of various governmental bodies and political parties were used in the research. In addition, comparative historical and systemic methods, a content analysis method were also applied in the study.

The study was based on the principles of historical, logical, and concrete analysis unity, the correlation of the subjective factor and objective conditions, and a systematic analysis of the object of study, which involves both objective, semantic and critical processing of factual material.

Scientific novelty of thesis research is based on a systematic and comprehensive analysis of modernization processes in Japan and Kazakhstan, as well as insufficiently comprehensive study of this topic.

The analysis of the stated problems allowed the author to obtain new scientific results presented in the thesis work:

- the Japanese experience of modernization was analyzed for the first time and its potential significance for democratic reforms in Kazakhstan was clarified;

- various forms of government were identified during the analysis of the forms of governance of the two countries ensuring the stability of social development;

- formation of a tradition and modernization dialogue strategy based on the "Wa" principle similar to the dialogue tradition in the Turkic world was proved;

- it was determined that the neoliberal techniques, such as transparency, dialogue, trust and establishment of close ties with society, influence social development and there is the possibility of successful use of these techniques in modernization programs of the NurOtan Political Party;

- experience of public service in Japan was studied based on an analysis of the formation of the Japanese model of public service, which indicates the possibility

of applying some of its aspects in the modern modernization process of Kazakhstan.

Practical relevance of the study.

The practical significance of the thesis is based on the fact that materials and conclusions can be used in preparation of subsequent studies on issues of Kazakhstan and Japan modernization. The thesis materials may be of interest to the foreign policy structures of the Republic of Kazakhstan in formation of the national strategic programs for the political system.

The thesis work can be used by employees of analytical centers and NGOs, as well as for preparing the courses in higher educational institutions for general and special courses affecting modernization issues, conducting structural reforms of the political system in Kazakhstan.

Key points for defending.

1. The modernization process is a process of continuous development with its regularities, models and stages of development. This process plays a specific role in transforming the theory of social development and the theory of modernization into a form of ideology.

2. Traditional mechanisms of modernization, political consciousness and behavior in Japan are in constant interconnection. As a result, internal discursive connections between the traditional mechanisms of modernization processes are changing. In addition, strategies for the modernization of institutions in the Kazakhstan political system should comply such criteria as legitimacy, stability, adaptability. For this, it is necessary to update the system of checks and balances that may ensure the stability and economic growth in society.

3. If Japan, until the 19th century, was a state of a recurring type, it then became a part of countries with catching-up modernization and now it has become an economically developed state. Therefore, there is a need in a thorough study of the possibilities of applying the Japanese model of modernization.

4. The Japanese model of modernization has influenced the preservation of the traditional society sources and determines a model for a dialogue of balanced modernization in light of the continuous development and separation into varieties. The Japanese experience of modernization will probably have a positive impact on the development of adaptation mechanisms in the modernization reforms of Kazakhstan.

5. A comparative analysis of the forms of government of Kazakhstan and Japan was carried out and the possibilities of using some mechanisms of Japan's neoliberal reforms in Kazakhstan, which influenced the consolidation of Japanese society, were identified.

6. The unity of tradition and modernization on the path of neoliberal development of Japan was considered based on the "Wa" principle, which means harmony and common understanding of the Japanese. In turn, the ability to preserve the Turkic world and openness to another world has the potential to achieve neoliberal changes in society. Modernization of Japan and Kazakhstan is based on the general principles of a harmonious policy of the tradition and modernization unity.

7. Liberal and modernization changes and specific ways for implementation of the goals of the ruling party in Japan has led to formation of the dominant party in the Land of the Rising Sun. In such conditions, the use of neoliberal techniques such as openness, high confidence of people to the ruling party, close cooperation between the LDP and the people will have a positive impact on the constructive, successful dialogue of the Nur Otan ruling party with other political parties and organizations.

8. By forming a model of public administration in Japan under our own experience in public service, it is possible to effectively apply some of the features of Japanese public service in the democratic transformations of Kazakhstan.

Testing the results of thesis research. The main provisions and conclusions of the thesis work were presented in 5 articles published in domestic and foreign scientific journals, discussed at a meeting of the Department of the Far East of Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi. Many provisions of the thesis work were reflected in speeches at scientific conferences and round tables: "The ideological and theoretical positions of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan" (Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Korea in Kazakhstan: Trends and Prospects of Development", dedicated to the 60th anniversary of Professor, scientist, teacher and public person, Kim German Nikolayevich. October 18, 2013. Almaty, 2013), "President in Kazakhstan" and "Emperor's Phenomenon in Japan: Comparative Analysis" (10th Conference on International Scientific Civilization Way: Language, Culture, Social Aspects; 15-16 March 2013, Almaty), "Features of the post-war political modernization of Japan" (Materials of international scientific conference of students and young scientists "World of Farabi" dedicated to the 80th anniversary of KazNU named after Al-Farabi. April 8, 2014).

The structure of the thesis work is based on the logic of achieving the goals and objectives of the study and consists of an introduction, three sections, conclusion and list of reference literature used.