

ANNOTATION

**On the dissertation for the scientific degree of PhD in specialty 6D020800 –
archeology and ethnology**

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**"Ethnic identity of the Kazakh diaspora: a comparative analysis of the
Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan "**

The dissertation work is devoted to the study of the ethnic identity of the Kazakh diaspora and its preservation in living conditions outside the historical homeland. In the work, the researcher shows the main elements of the conservation of the national code and the basic principles of maintaining ethnic identity in the conditions of diaspora existence.

Relevance of the research theme. It is known that the study of the history and culture of the Kazakh diaspora abroad, the state of its development as an ethnic group in a different ethnic environment and the current political and social situation became possible only after the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Today, domestic scientists are interested in the causes and consequences of the history of the Kazakhs' settlement abroad, the peculiarities of their placement in the recipient country, the dynamics of growth, decline, development trends, as well as the preservation and specificity of traditions and customs in various conditions.

The topic of the dissertation research is relevant today, since the main factors that form the ethnic identity of Kazakhs abroad as a whole are ethnic development or loss: language, religion, culture. In connection with the globalization of the modern world, scientists are interested in studying the diaspora, especially at the intersection of cultures, their position in the social environment and development opportunities. Ethnic groups living in the society of another country draw closer to the local environment due to certain factors (minority, location, mixed marriages, etc.) and remove barriers between nations, and the same cultural norms and standards eliminate local ethno-cultural traditions and ethnic identity. On the one hand, a small ethnic community seeks to preserve the originality of ethnic culture, to understand that they belong to the same ethnic group - their ethnic identity.

At present, the formation of the ethno-cultural identity of the diaspora has become a topical issue for many researchers. The study of mechanisms for maintaining integrity, ethnic identity and transformation factors of our compatriots abroad is also a requirement of today.

The object of the research - Kazakh ethnic identity

The subject of the research is a comparative analysis of the ethnic identity of the Kazakhs in Turkey and Uzbekistan.

The purpose of the dissertation is to study the ethnic identity of the Kazakh diaspora in Turkey and Uzbekistan and to identify the influence of historical, sociocultural factors in the preservation and change of their ethnic identity.

The objectives of the research:

- to explore the concept of ethnic identity, based on a comparative analysis of the theoretical and methodological concepts of foreign and domestic researchers on the issues of "diaspora", "ethnic identity".
- to determine the role of political, socio-cultural factors in the formation and resettlement of the Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan;
- to analyze the signs of ethnic identity in the traditional economy of the material culture of Kazakhs;
- show the external aspects of the Kazakh ethnic identity: knowledge of the native language, adherence to traditions, communication with institutional communities;
- to reveal the internal aspects of ethnic identity: knowledge about one's ethnicity;
- to determine and compare the level of respect for national values: historical memory and cultural heritage of the Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan;
- to determine how safe ethnic groups feel in their community (society);
- to determine the moral criteria of ethnic identity: teaching the Kazakh language to the younger generation, the principles of marriage and mutual assistance.

Theoretical and methodological basis of the research work.

The theory of ethnic identity entered the scientific circulation in the process of identifying the ethno-cultural boundaries of different ethnic groups. E. Erikson, F. Barth, E. Smith and others were the first to deal with the topic of ethnic identity. In the works of these authors, the basic concepts of ethnic identity were laid down.

The study was conducted on the territory of Uzbekistan and Turkey, the data were obtained through the use of such qualitative methods as the "observation method", "semi-structured interview" and others.

While writing the dissertation, several field ethnographic works were carried out. In particular, a comprehensive ethnographic survey was conducted in densely populated areas of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Turkey. For example, in 2017, 2018 and 2021, surveys were conducted among the Kazakhs of the Kybyray, Bostandyk, Zhanabazar, Akhangeren, Nizhne-Shypshik districts in the Tashkent region. In addition, the Kazakh side conducted research in the settlements of Uzbekistan, bordering on the Kazakhs Navoi, Ushkuduk, Kyzylkum. In addition, Almaty region, Kaskelen, st. A comprehensive study was also conducted among Kazakhs from Uzbekistan (Karakalpakstan) in Shamalgan.

In 2019, studies of Kazakhs in Turkey were conducted in the districts of Zeytinburnu, Gunashli (Kazakhkent), which are located in the city of Istanbul. And also research work (survey) was carried out in the rural areas of Altay-Koy, Ismil (in the administrative center of Nigde), Salihly districts, etc..

Expeditionary work was carried out by methods common to ethnological and ethno-sociological trends. In particular, interviews and questionnaires were conducted through a specially created questionnaire program. It was used by Kazakh community leaders, school teachers, local press editors, fund managers, business owners, artisans, tannery managers, and others.

Scientific novelty of the research. The dissertation research work was carried out systematically and comprehensively in accordance with the goals and objectives set. As a result of a comprehensive study and scientific analysis of issues:

- In domestic ethnological science, an attempt was made to study the theoretical and methodological problem of the concept of "ethnic identity".

- As a result of the historical and ethnographic analysis of the ethnic identity of the Kazakh diaspora, internal and external changes were revealed;

- field and ethnographic data were introduced into scientific circulation, defining ethnic identity in the territories of the Kazakh-populated regions of Turkey and Uzbekistan;

- a qualitative analysis of the factors of preserving the ethnic identity of foreign Kazakhs in the context of the diaspora was carried out;

- revealed socio-cultural factors of preservation and transformation of ethnic identity in the formation and resettlement of the Kazakh diaspora in two states;

- a comparative analysis of the preservation of signs of ethnic identity in the traditional economy and material culture of the Kazakhs was carried out;

- the marriage and family relations of the Kazakh diaspora were studied, on the basis of a sociological survey and other methods of study, the levels and specifics of preserving the identity of the Kazakhs in each region were determined;

- a comparative analysis was carried out and intergenerational continuity was revealed in the ethnic identity of the Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan, manifested in the veneration of the national cultural heritage and historical memory;

- the analysis of the use of the native language and the commitment to religion of the Kazakh diaspora in the preservation and transformation of ethnic identity was carried out;

- the role and place of public organizations and institutional associations in the preservation of ethnic identity, created in order to preserve the identity of the Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan, was revealed.

Provisions for defense:

- The ethnic identity of the Kazakhs in Turkey and Uzbekistan is stable, there are no significant differences in the characteristics of the ethnic identity of the Kazakhs in Kazakhstan.

- There are some differences in the parameters and ethnic characteristics of the Kazakhs of Uzbekistan and Turkey, which were formed under the influence of economic, political factors and the historical past of the diaspora. They are manifested in the degree of preservation of the Kazakh language among the younger generation. Thus, in Turkey, there is a decrease in the level of Kazakh language proficiency among generations under forty years of age, and the fading of this indicator is increasing among young people. At the same time, the Kazakhs of Uzbekistan have stable knowledge and use of the language, regardless of the age category.

- the representatives of the older generation are a layer that unites the interests of various social and age groups of the diaspora, thereby ensuring the prospect of its survival. Aksakals are the guardians of the heritage of the ethnic group, provide the

economic basis for the life of the diaspora, and also create socio-political conditions for the preservation of ethnic identity

– Currently, globalization is the main factor in leveling ethnic differences and cultural preferences in people's daily lives. And the Kazakhs of Turkey and Uzbekistan were no exception, as well as the Kazakhs of Kazakhstan. At the same time, we can state the presence of items with ethnic coloring in the interior decoration of houses, the sustainable preservation of the two main elements of Kazakh cuisine (boursaks and beshparmak, as the main dish) in the non-everyday meal.

– Under the influence of globalization, the interest of the younger generation in the past of the ethnic group, the history of the formation of the diaspora is fading. At the same time, interest in genealogy, shezhire remains. Interest does not fade even among young people. But it is the older generation that is the bearer of this knowledge. In each house, a shezhire is carefully stored (often preserved and brought during the flight of the Kazakhs). The older generation makes sure that young people do not marry until the seventh generation, observing the Zheti Ata principle. Representatives of the older generation pass on the tradition of preserving self-identification through genealogy, their belonging. Usually, when mentioning someone, next to the name they always indicate the family affiliation, and also the family names are present in the names of the area where the Kazakhs settled.

– Under the influence of globalization, the external parameters of identity are leveled - knowledge of the Kazakh language, eating habits, accepted norms of behavior among the young generation of Kazakhs in Turkey. At the same time, they often feel a sense of comfort and security among the Kazakhs. Therefore, in the modern world, the understanding of ethnic identity should not be as unambiguous as before.

– the Kazakh diaspora is looking for an opportunity to unite on an ethnic basis. In particular, communities, various cultural communities are organized, where they publish newspapers, magazines in the Kazakh language, broadcast Kazakh television. Kazakhs of Turkey cannot read the Kazakh press in Cyrillic, but have access to Kazakh television from home.

The practical significance of the work. The theoretical significance of the dissertation lies in the fact that, first of all, the concepts presented in the results of the study allow us to study the unity and preservation and change of the ethnic identity of our compatriots abroad, to develop ideas about the process of their development.

– the main factors of practical importance that ensure the ethnic identity of our compatriots abroad can be identified and used to study the mechanisms of assimilation of our compatriots, evaluate ways to slow down, and develop recommendations for the state;

– Research can be included as an optional subject in lectures, special courses, modules of optional specialization in ethnology, history in the historical and ethnographic direction;

– The concepts and conclusions of the dissertation can serve as the basis for developing a strategic plan for the model of ethnic identity and development of Kazakhs abroad.

Approbation of the main provisions of the dissertation. The dissertation research work was carried out at the Department of Archeology, Ethnology and Museum Affairs of the Faculty of History, Archeology and Ethnology of KazNU al-Farabi. The scientific results obtained in the course of the study were published in 14 articles in domestic and foreign publications in accordance with the topics that systematically reveal the content of the dissertation: including in publications recommended by the Committee for Control in Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan - 7 ; in collections of domestic and international scientific conferences - 6; in a journal with a non-zero impact factor indexed in the database Scopus – 1.