

TEACHING STAFF IN KALMYK STEPPE IN THE BEGINNING OF THE XX CENTURY

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Keywords: education, elementary school, teaching staff, structure, preparation, educational institutions.

The paper is devoted to the history of the system of education in Kalmyk steppe in the period from October 1917, including the types of elementary schools, the structure of teaching staff and their professional training.

According to the First General census of the population of the Russian Empire carried out in 1897 out of 4,728 qualified people there were just 13 people registered in Kalmyk steppe with vocational secondary education and 58 people with higher education. Qualified teachers were rare. Thus we can draw a conclusion that at that time teachers in Kalmyk steep were in deficit.

The aim of the research is to deepen our knowledge of the history of the educational system formation in Kalmyk steppe. The attempts of evaluating the tendencies of national education development in Russia in the beginning of the XX century were made by V. Vahterov, P. Capterev, G. Falbork. A significant part of their works is concentrated on the problem of the development of pedagogical science in Russia in the period of imperialism. At the end of 1980s - the beginning of 1990s works based on the modern methodological approaches appeared (S.Egorov, B.Tebiev). Recently the question of national education development in the pre-revolutionary period has become a subject of scientific research in national republics.

In the regional historiography of the given period the status of school education is investigated poorly. In separate publications of the researchers some sporadic and scarce information on education among the Kalmyks appeared. The authors of those brief sketches N. Spasskiy, S. Farforovskiy fixed the real picture of the state of schools in Kalmykia. The greatest attention is deserved by the works of A. Pozdneev, K. Ammosov, since these researchers were more closely connected to the Kalmyk people. We would also like to mention the works of V. Efreмова. She investigated the development of national schools in Kalmyk steppe in the end of

the XIX - the beginning of the XX century. I. Stepnov analyses schools in Kalmyk steppe, describes the state of national schools, and poses the question of the necessity of teaching Kalmyk children in their native language by the teachers-Kalmyks, as well as the question of teaching staff training.

The articles with an attempt of a retrospective study of the history of school education in Kalmykia, the distinctive features of Kalmyk schools are described, the processes of development of parish schools are investigated, and the question of teaching staff training is researched have recently appeared.

The teaching staff was divided into high schools teachers with certain rights, and teachers of elementary schools, with no rights whatsoever. The teaching staff in Kalmyk steppe in the pre-revolutionary period was replenished by the graduates of Astrakhan school, Astrakhan grammar school, Kazan seminary, Novocherkassk boarding-school, and Novocherkassk grammar school. Elementary schools in the Kalmyk district in the beginning of the XX century were established on the basis of the "Rules about elementary schools for other people", authorized by the Ministry of National Education of June 14, 1912. According to these "Rules" of October 9, 1915, the management of the Kalmyk people under the agreement with the director of national schools of the Astrakhan province produced "The Instruction for elementary schools of Kalmyk steppe of the Astrakhan province", authorized by the Astrakhan governor I. Sokolovskiy and the main trustee of Kalmyk management B. Crishtafomich. According to the instruction, the schools in Kalmyk steppe of the Astrakhan province were in under the management of the Kalmyk people. The pur-

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pose of these schools was, on the one hand, to promote intellectual development of the children, and on the other hand, to distribute among them the knowledge of the Russian language.

The elementary schools of Kalmyk steppe were divided into 2 types, according to the instruction: 1 class single-sex schools with the unified program of the Ministry of National Education and 2-class mixed-sex schools for alien population (national schools). There were also boarding school facilities. Teaching in all schools was conducted in Russian. The Kalmyk language was an ordinary school subject. The training at schools lasted 4 years with the division into 2 groups. In the national schools it was three-years (three-summer), with the division into 3 groups.

The funds for Kalmyk schools and boarding schools were supplied by the public Kalmyk capital, by the means of societies, and tuition fees.

The first obligatory requirement for a teacher was that the teaching was conducted in Russian. In some schools this mechanism covered the entire educational process, and in others it was inherent only for some subjects. All of the teachers were the graduates of educational institutions of Russia. The teacher of history and geography V. Lushernov graduated from St.-Petersburg clerical academy, N. Chidt, the teacher of gardening, graduated from the Wood Institute, the teacher of the Kalmyk language N. Badmaev graduated from Astrakhan grammar school.

In the Astrakhan province, where most part of the Kalmyk population lived, the teaching staff was increased in connection with the opening of new schools in 1906, when their quota became 22 people. But in 1914 in connection with the beginning of the World War I the number of the teaching staff decreased.

On March 6, 1916 the meeting of the teachers of Boliyshederbetovsky district was held, with a question about teaching the Kalmyk alphabet in schools on the agenda. But as there were no teachers - Kalmyks, there was a necessity to prepare special teachers from among the local young people who completed pedagogical training at Stavropol urban school, or studied in grammar schools and finished Baschantinsk 2-class school. 12 candidates were selected and the young people were sent to Petrograd to study the Kalmyk language in private tutoring by the senior lecturer of the East-

ern Studies faculty of the St.-Petersburg university V. Cotvichs and others orientalists. Later all the 12 students received the certificates and started teaching Kalmyk at the schools of Kalmykia.

The aspiration of youth to continue education amplified. In 1905 - 1910 in different educational institutions in other cities there were a lot of students from Boliyshederbetovsk district. Badma Dordshinov, Badma Tapkin, Erenshen Poliyteev studied in the Stavropol teaching seminary, Erenshen Dodenov, Erenshen Poliyteev, Tute Poliyteeva, Ovshe Nasunov, Alecsandr Eluev, Tute Dodenova studied in the grammar school, Anton Amur-Sanan and Kovrin Abramov studied at the university.

Thus, there is extensive historiography on the subject in question. The researchers of the pre-revolutionary period carried out the primary analysis of the material, and their works are rich in valuable content. They mentioned such questions as national schools, the description of various types of schools, the structure of the pedagogical staff, their professional training. On the basis of archival sources the first teaching staff who worked in Kalmyk steppe is now known. The structure of schools in Astrakhan, in the Stavropol province and the Areas of Don, the number of schools, and the level of preparation differed greatly. The teaching staff was replenished basically by the graduates of Astrakhan school, Astrakhan grammar school, Kazan teaching seminary, Novocherkassk school, and Novocherkassk grammar school.

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Received for publication on 11.11.2010