FROM THE HISTORY OF “KULAK EXILE” AND THE ELIMINATION OF LABOR VILLAGES

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Abstract: This article is devoted to the study of the process of the emancipation of the exiled people as “kulaks” from labor villages and elimination of such destinations. The paper provides detailed information on issuing passport for labor immigrants and their family members in the example of certain state farm immigrants. The peak period of exiting labor immigrants and their harsh living conditions in labor villages have been described. Most of the examples to provide data are obtained from state archives and books of experts on this subject.

Key words: emancipation, labor village, state farm, labor immigrants, decree, resolution, special account, military service, restoration of citizenship rights, escape.

INTRODUCTION

One of the issues belonging to “kulak exile” history that needs to be studied as an important process is the emancipation of people on exile and elimination of labor villages that they were living on. The emancipation process of the people who were exiled to the lands of Uzbekistan in the process of “kulak exile” and latterly departure process to their countries has not been fully and specially studied in history literatures yet. The archive of the Ministry of internal affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the archives of certain regions' internal affairs departments have been keeping rare records on emancipation of ex—“kulaks” in the labor villages situated in Uzbekistan. These documents have kept every detailed action of each “labor immigrant” that they are the records which provide appropriate information about who were these people in their past lives, their career in production and their lifestyle in labor villages, their emancipation from exile and departure to their former inhabitation destination. The citizens could not choose their destinies themselves in the country where tyrant executive administration method was dominant in soviet regime environment. What can be said about labor immigrants who were deprived of their own freedom, homeland, living tools and properties, and forcefully sentenced to strange places to live and work there?! Their fate, liberty and emancipation from labor villages and other such issues were completely under the control of the Center. Namely national, in reality puppet leaders of republics were also disabled to perform freely in this field either. Those who were moved to Uzbekistan for labor, as other people moved to distant areas, had to wait for the generosity of the Center. The reality was also that the exiled Uzbekistani immigrants of Uzbek origin in remote areas of Uzbekistan in captivity returning process went on harshly and difficultly to their former inhabitation destination getting rid of the seal of being “kulak” getting the rank of citizen and getting their passports. The process of emancipation of being “kulaks” went on too difficultly and slowly due to delays in accordance with official resolutions and decrees of central government departments. This was also partly due to spirit and content of certain official resolutions and decrees. One of such documents adapted by the USSR Central Executive Committee Presidium on July 3, 1931 was the normative “On sequences of restoration of citizenship rights of the exiled as kulaks”. It meant that “kulaks” who were distinguished from others with their being workaholic, punctuality, devotion to the soviet state could obtain back their citizenship rights during a five-year period (Shamsutdinov, 2001, p.55). One more resolution of the USSR Central Executive Committee on this issue was announced on May 27, 1934. In accordance with this decree ex-kulaks who had been on labor exile gained back their right to participate in elections (Shamsutdinov, 2001, p.58). From the time the resolution was adapted to the first November of 1934 the rights of participation on public elections were gained back 8505 families (31364 people). On the behalf of this event a group of exiled Uzbekistani ex-kulaks were returned back to their homeland from Ukraine, Northern Caucasus and Northern Kazakhstan. However, this emancipation process did not last long. The head of head department of Camps of people’s commissariat of internal affairs of the USSR M. Berman in his informative letter on January 2, 1935 to G.G. Yagoda required stopping mass restoration of the rights of special immigrants, and not sending back from exile locations to their former inhabitation destinations for those who had already gained back their rights to participate in elections. After looking through to the report G.G Yagoda put forward the resolution meaning not to send back those who gained back their rights to participate at public elections, and to turn to Central Executive Committee in case there is no such law, to prepare a letter attached with statistical numbers. G. G. Yagoda did not satisfy with just this action and immediately turns to I.V. Stalin. Consequently, the resolution of the USSR Central Executive Committee announced their resolution on January 25, 1935 that it modified the previous document by adding a line in which it was clearly written as “the restoration of citizenship rights of former kulaks does not ensure them to depart from the exile destinations”. (Shamsutdinov, 2000, p.97). In accordance with the resolution of the USSR Central Executive Committee on January 25, 1935 the USSR internal affairs of people’s commissariat worked out a guidance-instruction and sent it to national republics. It was explained in the guidance-instruction that the “kulaks” were obliged to stay at their exiled destinations even after obtaining back their citizenship rights. It was also mentioned that the “kulaks” that had previously sent back to their birth places had to be returned back to their exiled destinations as well. It was meant on the guidance-instruction that only the people who are
admitted to have been wrongly exiled, the adolescents at the age of to be called to army, the senile who cannot do any labor, the invalids without caretakers, and the girls who had married to a free citizen could depart from the destinations where the citizenship rights of kulaks had been restored. In short, although ex-kulaks had been given back the right to take part in public elections, they were not allowed to return back to their former inhabitation destinations from exiled locations, the labor immigrants were once again left in a state of restricted rights. The new Constitution of the USSR was adapted on December 5, 1936. “Former kulaks” were looking forward to the event. They had also expected to be able to be equal righted citizens, to get their freedom back and leave for their own homelands. It was, in reality, also mentioned in the 135th article of the new Constitution that “labor immigrants” were to be seen as equal righted citizens. That was the reason for increase of inspiration of people in “exile villages” around the years of 1936-1937, lots of “labor immigrants” felt “to be equally righted and to depart to their own villages”. However, these hopes of theirs were soon found to be unfounded. It was exposed that the words stating equal righted state of labor immigrants were just nonsense. The officials had to confess this fact to some extent. However, the letter also made it clear that former kulaks were not allowed to leave the places currently they were living as it was not so appropriate, it was stated that the resolution adapted by the USSR Central Executive Committee was still in power and the resolution would be altered to allow them to leave the border of the region they were currently staying in 1940 while they would be allowed to cross borders of the USSR in 1943. Along with aforementioned instructions, it was also mentioned that addition of a few stimulating factors for labor immigrants to settle down in their new places to for community was also recommended. The delays of emancipation of labor immigrants at labor villages, slowing down their return to their homelands had surely intensified displeased state of theirs; it contributed to the increase in the number of escapes from kulak villages. During the period from 1932 to 1940 the number of people who escaped from labor villages reached to 629042 people in total in the whole country. The number of unsuccessful attempts that ended with re-bringing of the escaped from labor villages constituted to 235120 people (Shamsutdinov, 2001, p.288).“The USSR XKS adapted a resolution “On issuing passport to labor immigrants and the children of the exiled”. It was meant that the children of the exiled could get a passport as soon as they reached the age of 16 following the general rules. They were now allowed to go to study, to enter work, and even to leave labor villages. The people who had married with free citizenship were allowed to leave “kulaks exile” although they were labor moved”.

The number of the young who were emancipated from labor villages of Uzbekistan in the period starting from July 1, 1939 to January 1, 1941 based on the resolution of the USSR HKS “On issuing passport to the children of labor immigrants and the exiled” made up 1408 people. The number of the adolescents aged 16-22 in just a single collectivized farm “Savay” 7th labor village emancipated to apply to study or work was equal to 105 people. Some of the exiled people for certain period were also emancipated in the years of 1938 and 1939. Sobirov Halim was sentenced to three years in prison and three more years exile by Old Bukhara district court in Bukhara region spent the period sentenced to exile at “Savay” state farm in Jalakuduk district labor village and was emancipated on August 10, 1935 since his exile period came to an end. The inhabitant of Gulnovli village Vobkont district of Bukhara region Gaforov Shamsiddin was also jailed as a “kulak” on May 7, 1932. He stayed in number 10 labor village in Bekobod district. His exile period finished in 1935; however, he had been emancipated from exile in September, 1938. The inhabitant of Erniyoz village Urgut district of Samarkand region Jamolov Yuldosh was found to be 3rd category “kulak” by the district political trinity on September 27, 1931. He was sentenced to labor-correction camp for five years basing on the third line of the 80th article of the UzSSR Crime Code. He spent the exile period in number four labor village in collectivized farm of Boyovut. Jamolov Yuldosh was emancipated from the labor village since the exile period had come to an end (Shamsutdinov, 2001, p.443). The senile not able to do labor, permanent individuals (if there were no caretakers) were also emancipated with the allowance of the people’s commissariat department of labor villages in accordance with the analysis of doctor. In the year 1939, 13 senile people were emancipated from “Khozorbogh” labor village, and sent to the senile care-house in Chinoz. And 14 senile were sent from “Boyovut” labor village to the senile care-house in Samarkand while 14 more were given to care of their relatives (Shamsutdinov, 2000,p.33). It was earlier mentioned that the war lasted from 1941 to 1945 had contributed significant changes to people on “kulak exile”. It was clear that “kulaks” and their children did not used to be called to the army previously, or at maximum they would be summoned to services at the fronts inside the country. The State Defense Committee decided to conscript former kulaks to the military service on April 11, 1942. This can be said to be another milestone that has changed the history of “kulak exile”, and started a new period in their life destinies. The USSR Internal affairs people’s commissariat announced a decree under the number 002303 on October 22, 1942. The decree meant that the family members of all the labor exiled who were serving at the red army were asked to be emancipated immediately and to issue them passport in endless quantity and to eliminate five per cent tax from their salaries. This decree had established one of the most important stages of emancipation process of the labor moved. The next new stage of emancipation from “kulak exile” was began by adaption of united resolution of the USSR Internal affairs people’s commissariat and the USSR public prosecution office “On emancipation of former kulaks labor immigrants from labor villages” under the number 00868/208 on September 28, 1946. In accordance with the aforementioned resolution kulak women who married to participants of war being awarded with medals and orders of government that are non-labor immigrants could be emancipated from labor villages. The return of former kulaks to their homelands took mass form. As it was experienced throughout the whole country, the emancipation of “kulaks” from labor villages took very long periods of time in Uzbekistan as well and this process included the period between the years of 1934-1956. The complete emancipation of labor immigrants made up from “former kulaks” was considered just at the end of 1947. The USSR Internal affairs Ministry worked out and presented the project of the USSR Ministers Soviet “On elimination of special regime for labor immigrants made up from former kulaks in Uzbekistan SSR, Buriat-Mongol and Komi ASSR, the oasis of Altay and Khabarovsk, Arkhangelsk, Irkutsk, Keremovo, Kuybieshev, Kurgan, Murmansk, Tomsk,
Tyumen, Kherson and Chelyabinsk regions” in November, 1947. It should be noted that since majority of labor immigrants were fed up with harsh conditions, lawlessness, the pressure and surveillance, and injustices by commandants of village they had to endure that they strived to gain their freedom through various ways, to return to their Motherlands, in other words to escape from the initial stage of the exile, and they had also came up with official letters of complaints to government establishments, some had escaped from the labor village and others gained a chance to return back to their homelands once they finished the period they were sentenced. The young teenagers at the age of 16 who got an eight-year education were emancipated form labor villages and grabbed the chance to study on various destinations further. It was noted in 1949 during the process of recounting labor immigrants that 3645 families, in total 52184 families included local ones were written to inhabit in destinations where living conditions were unsatisfactory. Such condition was also peculiar to the areas of labor villages in Uzbekistan. According to the data from July 1, 1950, it was noted that the total number of the lone invalid labor immigrants who have no caretaker all over the Central Asia made up 635 people and it was also recorded that there were plenty of orphan children who had not lost their parents in labor villages (Zemskov, 1995.p.147).Uzbekistan SSR Ministers Soviet chief N.Muhiddinov addressed to the USSR Ministers Soviet, G.M. Malenkov with letter on December 21, 1951. The letter stated that the exiled people were still listed in special account from the period of collectivization of farms in 1931-1933 in labor villages. It was noted that the number of such people throughout the republic was 5361 people, to be more specific, 3430 of them were the elderly and 1931 of them were the children, and in terms of nationality they were Uzbeks, Tajiks and Russian that most of them were about to reach their senile ages, the number of people worked for the cotton ministry was 5654 and the colonized farms ministry was 1198. The letter stated that as the implementation of resolution of the USSR government, decrees of the USSR Internal affairs people’s commissariat and the head executor of the USSR, the departments of State Security Ministry had been systematically emancipating former kulaks from various restrictions so as to eliminate their names from special account (Zemskov, 1995.p.42).N.Muhiddinov addressed to the USSR Ministers Soviet, G.M. Malenkov with letter on December 21, 1951. 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It was pointed out that there were children aged 16, formerly exiled people reached old ages, and people concluded to be invalid by medical commissions, the people who were not able to do any labor and had no caretaker, similarly relatives of former kulaks served for the soviet army and participants of the World War II known as the War for the Homeland1. Basing on the aforementioned facts N.Muhiddinov required to eliminate the names of these people from special accounts and unbanning them from various restrictions related to labor villages from G.M. Malenkov in the name of the government of Uzbekistan2. The mass emancipation of “former kulaks” from labor villages started in accordance with the resolution № 119-37 of the Soviet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on January 10, 1952 and the decree № 019 of State security and internal affairs minister on January 23, 1952. Based on the decree and resolution 5287 labor immigrants were emancipated in Uzbekistan just in the year of 1952. It should also be stated that the special regime for the former kulaks in Uzbekistan SSR was abolished with the command of the USSR state security ministry (Zemskov, 1995.p.147). According to the information prepared by the Internal affairs Ministry of the USSR for the year 1953 it was noted that the number of karakalpak labor immigrants in the area of the whole union, for instance in the group whose members were under and over 17 was 3459. At that moment, the number of people spending their lives in labor villages of Uzbekistan as the means of punishment in accordance with nationalities was 453 Uzbeks, 130 Tajiks, 500 Kazak, 241 Turkmen, and 84 Kyrgyz. They had been emancipated by the end of 1953. The return process of Uzbek peasants to their hometowns were started to be accepted as just a usual case from labor villages of Uzbekistan. They were deleted from the list of financial immigrants, got rid of the seal of being kulak, and gain back the right of citizenship to the full. The archive of the internal affairs ministry of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been keeping the documents related to emancipation of former kulaks from labor villages. There is personal document on the jobs of each labor immigrant that they contain information about past and labor activity of each exiled person. This information can be used to draw the picture of the destiny of kulaks, and process of their emancipation. We shall provide some information about former labor immigrants who had finally been emancipated from the exile after suffering from exile pains, doing some work for certain period of time in labor villages of Uzbekistan. Karimov Kozok was born in Lenin area (current Asaka district) in Oksokol village in 1909 that he was exiled to the 6th labor village with his parents in 1932. He was emancipated from being “labor immigrant” due to being called to red army3. Rustamov Muydin, born in Yakkatol village of Pop district in 1900, his wife Hojibibi and daughter Bahriniso were exiled to 2nd state farm in Yangiyul district in 1932. As the head of the family Rustamov Muydin was taken to military service, the family was emancipated from labor village in 1942. The issue of emancipation of labor immigrants has been emphasized in the example of “Savay” state farm. This process has some unique features for sure. The majority of families that had been exiled as “kulak” were emancipated after the end of the war, starting from the year 1945. However, the complete and full emancipated had finished by 1952. In accordance with the special resolution of the USSR Ministers Soviet Presidium on 10th of January and the special decree of the USSR State Security minister on the 23rd of January of the same year all of the labor immigrants were started to be emancipated in huge masses from labor villages throughout all areas of the Union. The former “kulaks” exiled and forced to work for labor village of “Savay” state farm from Bukhara, Samarkand, Surkhondaryo, Namangan, Fergana regions, Kurgontepa, Asaka, Oyim, Marhamat, Khujabod, Shahrikhon districts of Andizhan, Osh and Jalalabad regions of neighboring Kyrgyzstan, certain parts of Turkmenistan and the Russian Federation were emancipated from the exile and were allowed to return back to their hometowns. The “kulak” exile organized in the labor village of “Savay” state farm continued up until the end of 1952. The “kulak” labor immigrants and their family members that were able to do work had greatly contributed to the economic development of the state farm. Some of them had even expressed their wish to live on in the lands of the state farm even after the announcement of their elimination from the list of labor village and stayed there. They gained the respect of people and the administration of the state farm with their fair works. **Table 1. The following table shows the nationality of the...**

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1. War for the Homeland
2. Government of Uzbekistan
3. Labor immigrant
4. Special resolution of Uzbekistan
5. Labor village
exiled and moved to new districts according to the data of the 1\textsuperscript{st} of January, 1953:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationalities</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>The convicts sent to do labor work</th>
<th>The exiled</th>
<th>The people moved to new regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazak</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbek</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmen</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajik</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyz</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1408</td>
<td>1350</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The USSR Ministers Soviet adapted a resolution numbered 1738-1789 "On elimination of restrictions related to labor villages from former kulaks and other people" on the 13\textsuperscript{th} of August 1954. The resolution of the government signed by R.M. Malenkov noted that the former kulaks, who were exiled from collectivization regions in huge masses in the years of 1929-1933, had been staying at labor villages for a long time that they had already got used to living at these destinations, it was pointed out that the restrictions applied for the exiled from the collectivization regions in huge masses in 1929-1933 were eliminated.

CONCLUSION.
Despite these hard mishaps, the inhabitants of labor villages had devotedly worked in agricultural fields, and even overworked to complete their duties. Kulaks and their children had also participated in battlefields of the Second World War as well. Their employment to the front had also caused long controversial and contradiction issues. Eventually, they were also called to join to the red army. Hundreds of former “kulaks” were also sent to war from labor villages of Uzbekistan and led battles in various fronts. Most of them were perished or lost without a trace in battles. It can be said that, kulaks had contributed their significant portion to the victory over fascism. Positive changes sprung up on issues in labor and kulak villages after the War. The mass emancipation process of kulaks had begun. However, this process was also completed with diverse blocks up until 1956.

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