

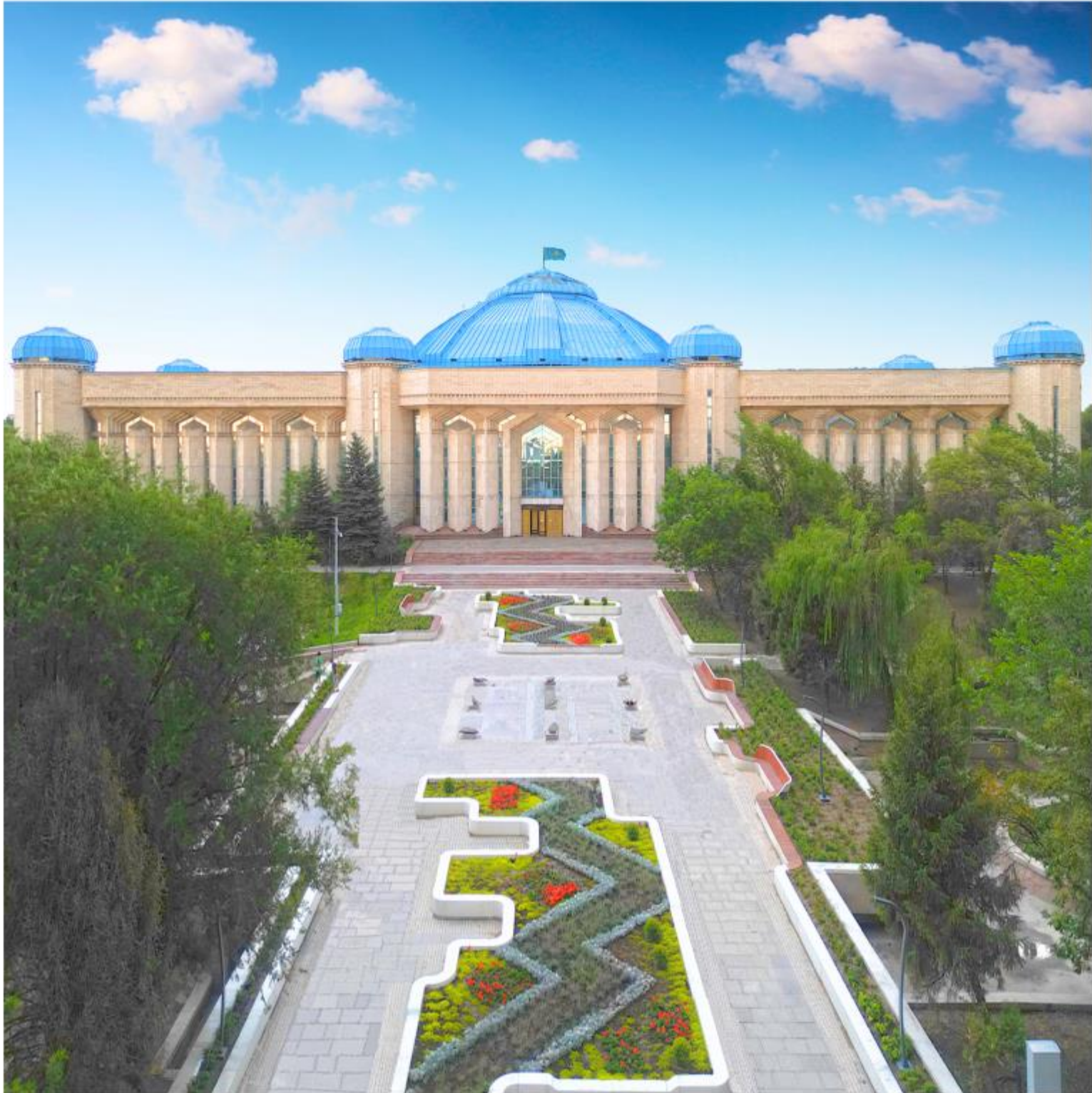
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SOVIET LABOR CAMPS IN KAZAKHSTAN*T.A. Bekbaeva*Kazakh National Pedagogical University named after Abay
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Abstract. Thousands of Kazakhstanis, convicted for political crimes under the Soviet Union, served their sentences in Karlag, Steplag, ALGIR, and other structures of the Gulag. Victims of political persecution, along with their families who were unjustly accused, participated in the development of industry and agriculture in the forced labor camps located in the central part of Kazakhstan. However, to thoroughly analyze the impact of persecution during this period on the broader population, we consider it essential to investigate the socio-demographic characteristics of those who endured persecution.

The chronological scope of the history of punishment for victims of political repression in Kazakhstan spans a 40-year period from 1918 to 1958, with particular emphasis from the late 1920s to the mid-1950s. During these years, the system of forced labor camps was officially established and operationalized in the USSR, serving as the primary vehicle for implementing the Soviet state's punitive policies. This encompassed all territories and peoples of the Soviet Union, as GULAG facilities were situated in every region and republic. A comprehensive review of historical data about this extended research period on such a complex historical issue, including comprehensive studies covering various regions of the country and the locations of forced labor camp construction, facilitates the resolution of contentious aspects of the problem, gathering diverse perspectives, exchanging opinions, and establishing the truth on the matter.

Materials and Methods of Research. Scientific endeavors heavily rely on established methods of historical research, specifically historical-systemic approaches, informational integrity, objectivity, accuracy, and historicity. Hence, the methodological foundation of this research integrates interdisciplinary methodologies from history, pedagogy, sociology, and geography. Throughout the article, we adhered to principles of historiography, maintaining logical coherence and employing methods for gathering, sorting, systematizing, and analyzing studies by historians concerning the camp system.

Keywords. GULAG, Karlag. Steplag. ALGIR, terror, USSR, Stalinist regime, OGPU, NKVD.

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ҚАЗАҚСТАН АУМАҒЫНДАҒЫ КЕҢЕСТІК ЕҢБЕКПЕН ТҮЗЕУ ЛАГЕРЬЛЕРІ*T.A. Bekbaeva*Абай атындағы Қазақ ұлттық педагогикалық университеті
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Аңдатпа. Кеңес Одағының саяси қылмысы бойынша жазаға тартылған мыңдаған қазақстандықтар «Карлаг», «Степлаг», «АЛЖИР» және «ГУЛАГ»-тың басқа да құрылымдарында өз жазаларын өтеді. Қазақтанның орталық бөлігінде орналастырылған еңбекпен түзету лагерлеріне жазықсыз жала жабылып тоғылған саяси қуғын-сүргін құрбандары мен олардың отбасылары, туыстары елдің өнеркәсіп пен ауыл шаруашылығын дамытуға ат салысты. Алайда, бұл кезеңдегі қуғын-сүргін халықтың қалың бұқарасына қаншалықты әсер еткендігін дұрыс талдау үшін, қуғын-сүргінге ұшырағандардың әлеуметтік-демографиялық ерекшеліктерін зерттеу қажет деп, ойлаймыз.

Қазақстанда саяси қуғын-сүргін құрбандарын жазалау тарихының хронологиялық көлемі лагерь жүйесінің өмір сүруінің 1918 жылдан 1958 жылға дейінгі 40 жылдық кезеңін

камтиды. Дегенмен, қазақстандық зерттеушілердің негізгі назары 1920 жылдардың аяғынан 1950 жылдардың ортасына дейінгі кезеңге аударылады. Дәл осы жылдары КСРО-да Кеңес мемлекетінің жазалау саясатын жүзеге асырудың негізгі арнасына айналған мәжбүрлі еңбекпен түзеу лагерлері жүйесі ресми түрде қалыптасып, жұмыс істеді. Іс жүзінде бұл Кеңес Одағының барлық аумағы мен халықтарын қамтиды, өйткені ГУЛАГ бөлімшелері КСРО-ның әр аймағында және барлық одақтық республикаларда болды. Осындай күрделі тарихи мәселені зерттеудің ұзақ кезеңіне қатысты тарихи деректермен жан-жақты танысу, оның ішінде еліміздің көптеген аймақтары, соның ішінде еңбекпен түзету лагерлерінің салынған жерлеріне қатысты жалпылама зерттеулердің пайда болуы тақырыптың даулы аспектілерін шешуге, әртүрлі көзқарастарды жинақтауға, пікір алмасуға, шындықты анықтауға мүмкіндік береді.

Зерттеу материалдары мен әдістері. Ғылыми жұмыстар негізінен тарихи зерттеудің белгілі әдістеріне, атап айтқанда тарихи-жүйелік, ақпараттық, объективтілік, нақтылық, тарихилыққа тәуелді. Сондықтан, зерттеудің методологиялық негізін тарих, педагогика, әлеуметтану, география ғылымдарының салааралық әдіс-тәсілдері құрайды. Мақаланы жазу барысында тарихшылық принципі, логикалық үйлесімділік және лагерлер жүйесі туралы тарихшы ғалымдардың зерттеулерін жинақтау, сұрыптау, жүйелеу және талдау әдістері басшылыққа алынды.

Тірек сөздер: ГУЛАГ, Карлаг. Степлаг. АЛЖИР, террор, КСРО, сталиндік режим, ОГПУ, НКВД.

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СОВЕТСКИЕ ТРУДОВЫЕ ЛАГЕРЯ В КАЗАХСТАНЕ

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Аннотация. Тысячи казахстанцев, наказанных за политические преступления Советского Союза, отбывали наказание в «Карлаге», «Степлаге», «АЛЖИРЕ» и других структурах «ГУЛАГа». Жертвы политических преследований и их семьи, невинно оклеветанные родственники, приняли участие в развитии промышленности и сельского хозяйства в исправительно-трудовых лагерях страны, расположенных в центральной части Казахстана. Однако, для того чтобы точно определить, насколько преследования в этот период затронули население, необходимо изучить социально-демографические характеристики тех, кто подвергся репрессиям.

Хронологические рамки истории наказания жертв политических репрессий в Казахстане охватывают 40-летний период существования лагерной системы с 1918 по 1958 годы. Однако основное внимание казахстанских исследователей сосредоточено на периоде с конца 1920-х до середины 1950-х годов. Именно в те годы в СССР была официально создана и начала функционировать система исправительно-трудовых лагерей, которая стала основным инструментом осуществления карательной политики Советского государства. Эта система охватывала все территории и народы Советского Союза, так как подразделения ГУЛАГа были размещены в каждой области СССР и во всех республиках Союза. Погружение в исторические данные, связанные с долгим периодом исследования этого сложного исторического вопроса, включая общие исследования, касающиеся множества регионов страны и мест, где располагались исправительно-трудовые лагеря, позволяет разрешить спорные аспекты проблемы, собрать различные точки зрения, обменяться мнениями и установить истину по данной теме.

Материалы и методы исследования. Научные исследования существенно опираются на широкий спектр известных методов исторического анализа, таких как историко-системный подход, использование информации, стремление к объективности, точности и историчности данных. Именно поэтому методологическую основу данного исследования составляют междисциплинарные методы, включающие подходы из областей истории, педагогики, социологии и географии. При написании статьи мы руководствовались принципами историографии, стремились к логической последовательности и использовали методы сбора, анализа, систематизации и оценки исследований ученых-историков, касающихся системы лагерей.

Ключевые слова: ГУЛАГ, Карлаг. Степлаг. АЛЖИР, террор, СССР, сталинский режим, ОГПУ, НКВД.

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Introduction. 1930-1959 in a totalitarian political regime, the individual rights of citizens were completely ignored and human rights and freedoms were violated. During the years of Stalin's rule in the USSR, significant, historic reforms for the development of the country ended in repressions for the Soviet people. Researchers about politically persecuted peoples and citizens in forced labor camps rightly cite in their works the real reasons why the crimes of the Stalinist regime formed the basis. When the enormity of these crimes was revealed, it became clear that they could not have been committed without the active or passive participation of millions of Soviet people, that is, it was impossible to draw a clear line of demarcation because the entire country was under suspicion. Persecution under the Stalinist regime was not just a historical event. It cannot be denied that the system of forced labor camps, which began to take shape in the USSR in the late 1920s, over time turned into a powerful industrial complex that played an important role in the economic and political life of the country. At one time, they were formed as a single socio-economic system in conjunction with the multilateral, multidimensional Soviet state system.

Discussion. To date, the formation of the history of forced labor camps has been identified by Russian historians as 476 camps that existed in different years on the territory of the USSR, and the history of the geographical location of forced labor camps is the same, but from domestic historiography it is clear that forced labor camps built on the territory of Kazakhstan have not been fully scientifically studied. Almost each of the forced labor camps built in Kazakhstan had several branches and departments, and their territory was also huge. In May 1930, the NCC of the USSR adopted the Resolution «On the organization of Kazakh labor correctional camps», and correctional camps operated under the communist regime and the entire Soviet system.

In the book by Ivanova G.M. written: The main administration of the labor camps built in the Soviet Union is the «GULAG» and in its form it was a typical state-bureaucratic institution. The author notes that these correctional camps were an important part of the Soviet penitentiary system, and over the 30-year period (1930-1960s) of the work of this headquarters, its departmental subordination and full name changed several times [Ivanova, 2015].

The Gulag became the object of professional attention of Russian historians only in the 1980s - early 1990s, only after which researchers had access to the necessary archival materials (there are still restrictions). And the study of victims of political repressions of 1930-1959 by Kazakh historians began in 1989, that is, after the collapse of the USSR.

An open study of the Gulag system in a scientific sense was caused by Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of June 23, 1992 №658 “On the removal from legislative and other acts of restrictive signs that are the basis for mass persecution and violation of human rights” [Rybakovsky, 2013]. It was impossible not to accept this timely decree. After this, it was ordered to declassify all documents about the organization and activities of judicial and non-judicial bodies, correctional labor institutions, and camps. The process of declassifying archival funds, which began after the decree was issued, was accompanied by the active publication of new

documents, layers of previously unknown archival materials were introduced into scientific circulation, and hundreds of memories of former Gulag prisoners became public knowledge.

“On the eve of the collapse of the USSR, Russian scientists removed a lot of real data and figures from the once existing archives. They are inaccessible to us,” says L.L. Rybakovsky. [Rybakovsky, 2013: 5]. In his book «Political Terror», the author compares many emerging opinions with objective information about the events of the 30s, as well as the memories of those who went through Stalin’s camps at the time or later, in the late 80s and early 90s. Book by Rybakovsky L.L. is a study of the tragedy of the Soviet people of 1937-1938, a tragic event that occurred in the context of unprecedented economic, cultural and social development of the country. In it, the author tries, through sources, to present the true face of repression in order to get to the bottom of the truth about these sad pages of our history. Unfortunately, the truth is always one-sided. Therefore, we believe that researchers on this topic must continue to seek systematic information about persecution, while at the same time fighting the desires of those who seek to denigrate the times in which we or our parents lived.

The album about «Karlag» can be classified as research about the forced labor camps of Kazakhstan [Zhumadilova, Baymurynov, Zhunisova, 2012]. The album contains information about the biographies of innocent victims of the totalitarian system by grouping documents and photographs stored in the archives of Kazakhstan and Russia. Its chronological framework covers the period from 1931 to 1959, when Karlag worked.

The camp «KarlagOGPU» in Kazakhstan (1931) was originally called the camp «Giant», its administration was located in the village of Dolinka (1930). Its territory included 120 thousand hectares of arable land, 41 thousand hectares of meadow lands, and the outskirts extended to the Akmola region. In 1941 its territory reached 1,780,650 hectares. In 1931 it had 78 departments, and in 1953 it was divided into 26 departments, 192 points, and they were partially divided into arable, meadow, and pasture lands.

At that time, to develop various industries in the country, the labor of citizens imprisoned in labor camps was used as free labor to build very large food centers. It is known that the ethnic composition of the victims of political persecution who served their sentences in the camps was different, the majority of them were Ukrainians, Belarusians and Russians resettled to Kazakhstan in 1906-1910. N.F. Bugai: Focusing on the forced resettlement of 18 ethnic communities and 43 nationalities to the eastern regions of the country, mainly to Kazakhstan and the Central Asian republics, in the pre-war years, during the Great Patriotic War and later, he argues that among the politically persecuted there was a principle of sharing citizens by nationality [Bugai, 2020: 20].

The labor camps built in Kazakhstan were a state built within a state. This is due to the fact that the management of these camps was subordinated only to the GULAG OGPU (NKVD), that is, directly to the capital of the Soviet Union - Moscow. Prisoners of forced labor camps sewed clothes according to their profession, worked overtime in heavy industries, and performed various construction work on state farms and in local areas.

Among the tasks, such areas as strengthening the economic and spiritual potential of society, strengthening the military power of the state, truly corresponded to the Law of the State - the Constitution of the USSR defined at that time. Corrective labor camps in Kazakhstan were grouped according to the punishment of prisoners. For example: “the Alzhir” camp is dedicated to the wives and children of traitors to the Motherland, the “Spassk” and “Balkhash” camps serve prisoners of war, and “Particularly dangerous” prisoners are kept in the «Steplag» labor camp.

In general, although the directions were determined correctly and corresponded to the law of the state, falsification was allowed, since the goal of the principle of the leader of the peoples I. Stalin was to preserve and strengthen power. As a result, people who were victims of political persecution lived in forced displacement.

The historical truth about Karlag can be read in the article by Saulebektegi A. «The Truth of Karlag – Sadness and Suffering» [Saulebektegi, 2009]. In the village of Dolinka, which was the administrative center of Karlag, prisoners were subjected to additional punishments, torture and

executions. Sentences of the Karaganda regional court, known as «Ushtik», were executed locally; those sentenced to death were registered as «dead», and in most cases their personal files were destroyed locally.

On this issue, when studying the history of the camps opened in the region of Kazakhstan, you can read the work of Baymurynov Yu.M. and Zhunisov B.A. entitled “KARLAG OGPU from Stolypin to the GULAG.” The research work examines the history of the creation of KarLAG and its prisoners who served their sentences there, and their national composition, and also provides detailed data on the social, political and economic status of the camp [Baymurynov et al., 2012].

Before the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, new factual materials on the history of the camps were limited to a description of the number and composition of prisoners, the organization of the camps, their location and economic role. The camp system in Kazakhstan was seen as a problem of forced labor, and a number of trends in Soviet punitive policies were identified. Most of the works were predominantly statistical and documentary publications. The exact names of citizens subjected to political persecution became known only after 1992.

In 1997, serious work was carried out on the system of camps, including KarLAG, after our country gained independence. This can be attributed to the study of D. A. Shaimukhanov and S. D. Shaimukhanova «Karlag». Many works written about the forced labor camps built in Kazakhstan group the data and give a general description. In the studies of D.A. Shaimukhanova and S.D. Shaimukhanova, the authors revealed the contents of the camp system and analyzed it from a scientific point of view, from the history of the creation of the camp to its closure [Shaimukhanov, Shaimukhanova, 1997].

The works of the above-mentioned authors also write that the amount of land allocated for the KarLAG camp and the need for labor to create a large food base for the coal and metallurgical industries, located 350 km from the Akmola region and the Balkhash branch located 650 km from camps. Karlag was closed on July 29, 1959, and today a memorial museum for victims of political repression has been organized in the village of Dolinka.

Since 1931, prisoners from all over the Soviet Union gathered in the Karlag camp, their number increased every year, and from December 19, 1931 it received the name “Karlag MGPU”. During this period, any forced labor camp in Kazakhstan was directly subordinate to the Gulag. The punished Germans, Russians, and Ukrainians were resettled to the Telmansky, Osakarovsky and Nura districts of the Karaganda region. At this time, the seized cattle were transferred to the Gigant state farm.

The Gulag was completely controlled by the OGPU of the USSR, the NKVD of the USSR, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR and the Ministry of Justice of the USSR. The full name of the Main Directorate changed depending on its structural divisions. For example, from 1934 to 1938 the Main Directorate was called the Main Directorate of Labor Settlements and Places of Detention, and from 1939 to 1956 - the Main Directorate of Correctional Camps and Colonies. In official records management, despite the current name, the abbreviation “GULAG” was often used, which was used as an independent term with grammatical features of the masculine gender.

Along with the Gulag, the NKVD - Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR was subordinate to other main camp directorates, most of which were created in the 1940s on the basis of the production directorates of the Gulag. There were specialized camp production departments, such as the Main Directorate of Villages of Mining and Metallurgical Enterprises (GPGM), the Main Directorate of Railway Construction Villages (GZSP), the Main Directorate of Forest Villages (GLP), the Main Directorate of Yeniseistroy. They were subordinate to dozens of camp units with hundreds of thousands of prisoners. Basically, the labor of citizens who were subjected to political persecution was often used in the implementation of large economic projects of high national importance of a military-industrial nature. The fulfillment of the planned tasks of all production units of the camp depended on the Gulag. This dependence was explained by the fact that the GULAG was the “main custodian” of the «labor fund».

Rybakovsky L.L. writes: «From mid-1937, in Russia, and in all other parts of our then huge Motherland, the Soviet Union, a period of many months of persecution by the ruling regime against its own people began. There were many such bloody pages in the history of Russia before and after the period under review. But these months cannot be compared with others in scale, coverage of various spheres of social life, and the cruelty of repression» [Rybakovsky, 2013: 6].

The tasks of the NKVD-MVD of the USSR included the separation of prisoners of all forced labor camps, providing the camps with labor in accordance with its functions, ensuring the regime and safety of prisoners, providing the camps with food and clothing. These functions turned the Gulag into the main link in the organizational structure of the penitentiary authorities, aimed at exploiting the labor of convicts. In the forced labor camps of Kazakhstan, which were its main structures, criminal proceedings were carried out aimed at using the labor of convicts.

Repressions against the politically persecuted in Kazakhstan were not limited to 1936-1937; it continued even after I. Stalin left power. Although the events of the repressions of 1937-1938 have been studied, the names of many citizens who served sentences in labor camps are still unknown.

On August 15, 1937, Order No. 00486 of the NKVD of the USSR led to the opening of the «ALGIR» labor correctional camp in Kazakhstan. It ordered the arrest of the wives of traitors and spies along with their husbands, as well as the wives of those sentenced to death, imprisoned or suspected of participating in espionage organizations. The instructions for registering family members are not intended for family members in general, but specifically for women and children. However, other categories of relatives of convicts did not escape punishment.

A study written about prisoners at the Alzhir forced labor camp in Kazakhstan provides detailed information about the lives of women serving their sentences there. This work contains a list and photographs of innocent victims from the founding of Algeria to its last period and covers the entire history of ALGIR as a whole [Grinev et al., 2003]. Such collections today are an accessible source of information for researchers. This is due to the fact that many materials, especially from the early 1920s, are inaccessible to researchers due to the Personal Data Law, adopted in connection with those repressed after the death of I. Stalin. The information in most existing lists is very fragmentary; some lists are based on information about a specific group of repressed people (for example, only those executed). Therefore, it should be remembered that there is no completely accessible open source code, except for the “Book of Memory” memorial museum. Therefore, it is very important to combine published memories of local labor camps or the memories of relatives of citizens who were tortured in labor camps.

The Algerian memorial and museum complex, designed by B. Zhunisbekov and L. Abdirahmanova, contains historical memories preserved in the scientific funds of the museum that have not previously been presented to the public. In addition, this collection of memoirs is distinguished by information provided by witnesses who saw victims of political repression [Zhunisbekov, Abdirahmanova, 2014]. However, when publishing such works or grouping materials, determining general principles, first of all, the compilers of the “Books of Memories” face a number of problems. There is no consensus on what information and documents relating to which people should be included in the database, etc.

Each regional organization involved in the publication of “Books of Memory” contains a different set of information. Today, many investigative cases are still stored in departmental archives and are not available for research, and some prisoners are not acquitted or the case is refused to be studied. In most cases, if several people are involved in a case, if the accused are acquitted, it remains completely closed to their relatives and researchers. During the period under review, there is also no confirmation of the declared number of repressed persons, which exceeds the individual data for each region included in the forced labor camps. Sometimes in local history materials the number of persecuted people is exaggerated without any documents. When creating it, we must be careful about such artificiality.

Regarding this issue, E.M. Mishina writes: “Currently, the source containing mass biographical information about the victims of terror is the “Books of Memory.” In many republics and regions of the former Soviet Union, books are published dedicated to the memory of the victims of political terror. The main content of these books consists of brief biographical information about those executed, imprisoned, forcibly exiled and deported, mobilized into the labor army. In his work, the author says that such books were published in small editions (from 100 to 1000 copies) and practically did not go on sale, and speaks of the need for its development [Mishina, 2022].

In general, “Books of Memory” is a source with great information potential. The fact that their information is collected together in the Memorial database greatly simplifies and structures the work with this source. However, an analysis of the information in the «Books of Memory» showed that not all of them can be used to compile a collective biography of those repressed in a certain period. It is necessary to study the structure and methods of creating each specific book for each individual region, and also compare it with published statistics on the number of victims of repression who served their sentences in labor camps. Using the Books of Memory as an example, we cannot explore vast areas of the mid-1930s. When analyzing repressions on the eve of political terror, it is necessary to select the “Books of Memories” of only individual territorial units that are part of the expanded regions.

The emergence of scientific research into the institutional and regional aspects of the problem of the Kazakh camps is an achievement of modern domestic historiography. Among which there is a study about the memorial-museum “ALGIR”. These include the research complex of T. Zhanbosynov «Alash- ALGIR». The content of this study is devoted to the fate of victims of political persecution and totalitarianism [Zhanbosynov, 2011]. Thanks to this work, the author introduced into scientific circulation new data on the forced labor camps of Kazakhstan, obtained from departmental and regional archives. Today in the village of Malinovka there is a monument to prisoners of ALGIR No. 26. On the alley planted with their hands there are stands with names and fragments of memories and an ALGIRAN museum has been created.

Spassk was one of these labor camps in Kazakhstan. Structurally, it was “special”, since until 1917 large foreign companies were located here. Karlaga Karabas, Spassk, Peschanny, Central, Kokozek and others. After 1945, these camps were filled with Korean citizens, the prisoners were free laborers needed in heavy mines, brick factories, mechanical repair plants and construction organizations. Spassk was part of Karlag until 1956.

The correctional labor camp, opened as part of Karlag, was located in the city of Steplag, Zhezkazgan region. Since 1936, in the vicinity of Zhezkazgan, construction workers, formed from prisoners of labor camps, worked at a metallurgical plant, a reservoir, deposits, thermal power plants, and a manganese mine. In 1945, this labor camp was replenished with several thousand German prisoners of war. N.F. Bugai in his article tries to answer the question: What is the meaning of national identity? [Bugai, 2020: 19]. The author believes that politics during the war, and then in general, was based on the principles of patriotism during an emergency war with the aim of mobilizing the people to govern from one center, organizing the defense of the state, maintaining its integrity, creating conditions for ensuring the security of the country and implementing priority areas development of the group.

Until 1946, the Zhezkazgan camp was under the control of Karlag, created for especially dangerous criminals, «enemies of the people», «traitors to the Motherland», and «counter-revolutionaries». If Karlag was built on the principle of a penal colony of Tsarist Russia, then Steplag was built on the principle of German concentration camps. If the prisoners of Karlag were mainly engaged in agriculture, then the prisoners of Steplag worked only in manufacturing enterprises. In the Gulag system in Kazakhstan, the first uprising took place in this Steplag. In 1954, this uprising lasted more than a month, and the rebels were punished mercilessly. After the death of I. Stalin, the Kengir uprising in Steplag became the basis for the closure of the correctional camps of the special hard labor system of the Gulag system in Kazakhstan.

In a word, from the mid-1930s this period can be considered a period of violent displacement of the Stalin era and attributed to this period. This was in 1935-1936. and until the early 1950s. Then, as events developed, with the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, migrations associated with crossing borders occupied a large territory. In the system of state bodies overseeing this entire area, a kind of institutionalization has occurred (troikas, decisive punishments, special commands, special assemblies, front and army headquarters, state defense committees, labor and labor columns, battalions, etc.). As a result of various repressive measures from the center, innocent people were forcibly resettled in Kazakhstan from the 1930s to the early 1950s.

L.L. Rybakovsky: «For me there is no question whether I like the Stalinist regime or not, I lived under it, then I had my own worldview, now it is different. But the problem is not here, when writing a book about the events of the past, even about the suffering of the people, you should still stay away from emotions and try to be objective. This is not politics, this is not even art, this is science. But there is no need to increase the number of repressions». «There is no need to exaggerate in order to pass the judgment of history on those who created terror and those who carried it out, often those who became its victims» [Rybakovsky, 2013: 6]. In the labor camps of Kazakhstan, the rights of thousands of citizens were violated and their honor was insulted. When studying the camp system scientifically, it is impossible to influence its presentation. The history of the creation of the labor camp system in Kazakhstan cannot be considered separately from the Gulag system of the USSR.

Conclusion. The construction of labor camps in Kazakhstan was very useful for the Soviet Union, since the central regions of Russia were provided with the natural resources of the Kazakh land, especially during the war years. Karlag, Steplag, ALGIR and others. The labor of citizens serving sentences in labor camps was used free of charge in the construction of factories and in the development of heavy mines and metallurgy. 1920-1960 The tasks set by the state related to economic, military-industrial reforms were carried out by the free labor of citizens serving their sentences in the camps. The correctional labor camps of Kazakhstan at that time experienced a shortage of labor. In terms of territory, these camps covered very large areas, and for this reason they were partially divided into land, meadows, and pasture lands. The forced use of labor by Kazakh citizens serving sentences in labor camps for the development of various industries of the country was an incorrect state policy aimed at punishing rather than protecting its people.

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