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## PREPARATION AND SELECTION OF KAZAKH STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNIST UNIVERSITY OF WORKERS OF THE EAST

The Communist University of the Toilers of the East (KUTV) is an educational institution organised by the Comintern (Communist International) from 1921 to 1938. The activities of this educational institution were carried out in two directions. The first was the spread of socialist ideology and the development of the socialist movement of the peoples of the East outside the territory of Soviet power, and the second was the training of personnel from representatives of the local population of the East for service by the direction of the ideology. Party personnel for the countries of Central Asia, the Far East, and the North Caucasus were trained here. Graduates of this University became the basis of the new proletarian intelligentsia in their countries. In the article presented to you, the object of research was the development and change of KUTV requirements for admitting students. Accordingly, one can see the formation of a system of communist (party) education in Kazakhstan and the USSR. In the 1920s, the complex social situation after the Civil War and the onset of mass enrollment in higher education reduced the quality of students at universities. The work of the admission committee of the Communist University with such a large number of students is described in detail here.

**Key words:** Eastern peoples; workers of the east; KUTV; Comintern; student admission requirements; Kazakh students; student selection.

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### Шығыс еңбекшілерінің Коммунистік университетіне қазақ студенттерін ірітеу және даярлау

Шығыс еңбекшілерінің Коммунистік университеті (КУТВ) – 1921–1938 жылдар аралығында Коминтерн (Коммунистический интернационал) ұйымының ұйымдастыруымен қызмет еткен оқу орны. Бұл оқу орнының қызметі екі бағытта жүргізілді. Біріншісі – Кеңестік билік территориясынан тыс жатқан Шығыс халқтары үшін социалистік идеологияны тарату және социалистік қозғалысты дамыту болса, екіншісі – жергілікті Шығыс халқы өкілдерінен идеология бағытына сәйкес қызмет ететін кадрларды даярлау болды. Мұнда Орталық Азия, Қиыр Шығыс және Солтүстік Кавказ елдері үшін партиялық кадрларды даярлау жүргізілді. Бұл университеттің түлектері өз елдеріндегі жаңа пролетарлық интеллигенцияның негізі болды. Сіздерге ұсынылып отырған мақалада ШЕКУ-нің студенттерді қабылдау кезіндегі талаптарының дамуы, өзгерісі зерттеу объектісі болды. Осыған сәйкесінше Қазақстан және КСРО көлемінде коммунистік (партиялық) білім беру жүйесінің қалыптасу жолын көре аласыздар. 1920-жылдары азамат соғысынан кейінгі әлеуметтік жағдайдың төмендігі, ал жоғары оқу орынына жаппай шақыру жұмыстарының басталуы университеттерде білім алушылардың сапалық деңгейін түсіргені анық. Осындай жаппай білім алушылар легімен Коммунистік университет қабылдау комиссиясының атқарған жұмысы толық сипатталып берілген.

**Түйін сөздер:** Шығыс халқтары; Шығыс еңбекшілері; ШЕКУ; Коминтерн; қабылдау талаптары; қазақ студенттері; Коммунистік университет; студенттерді іріктеу.

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### **Подготовка и отбор казахских студентов в Коммунистический университет трудящихся Востока**

Коммунистический университет трудящихся Востока (КУТВ) – учебное заведение, организованное Коминтерном (Коммунистическим Интернационалом) в 1921–1938 годах. Деятельность этого учебного заведения осуществлялась по двум направлениям. Первая заключалась в распространении социалистической идеологии и развитии социалистического движения народов Востока за пределами территории Советской власти, а вторая заключалась в подготовке кадров из представителей местного населения Востока для службы в соответствии с направлением идеологии. Здесь проводилась подготовка партийных кадров для стран Средней Азии, Дальнего Востока и Северного Кавказа. Выпускники этого университета стали основой новой пролетарской интеллигенции в своих странах. В представленной вам статье объектом исследования стало развитие и изменение требований КУТВ при приеме студентов. Соответственно, можно увидеть формирование системы коммунистического (партийного) образования в Казахстане и СССР. В 1920–е годы тяжелая социальная ситуация после гражданской войны и начало массового набора в высшие учебные заведения явно снизили качество студентов в университетах. Здесь подробно описана работа приемной комиссии Коммунистического университета с таким большим количеством студентов.

**Ключевые слова:** Восточные народы; трудящиеся востока; КУТВ; Коминтерн; требования по приему студентов; казахские студенты; отбор студентов.

#### **Introduction**

When we look back at the Soviet period, we now see the fate of a great state that has fully organised the state and human life and formed a person comfortable with a new type of life. However, the internal structure that regulates the direction and activities of such a well-organised state is still being studied. One of the objects of such analysis is the subject of our research – the Communist University of the Workers' East. This higher educational institution was established in 1921 to spread the communist idea to them, taking into account the characteristics of the representatives of the Eastern nations. For the eastern countries outside the territory of the USSR, the Communist University of Eastern Workers was a means of attracting Soviet-Marxist ideology. For the local eastern peoples, it was a means of training personnel to serve the emerging Soviet government in a new format.

#### **Materials and Methods**

First, it was necessary to conduct a historiographical analysis to reveal the problem of training and selection of Kazakh students at the Eastern Workers' Communist University. Since this issue was raised for the first time in Russian historiography, the works of Russian researchers and foreign scientists were analysed.

Based on the results of historical analysis, we concluded that the issue of selecting and preparing candidates for communist universities is more relevant for the people of Central Asia. After all, they did not master the language of instruction (Russian) or even did not know it. Also, the education system established under the Russian Empire did not allow adaptation to the newly formed Soviet reality.

To more clearly reveal the topic and achieve the article's goal, a comprehensive analysis of the rules for admission to the Eastern Workers' Communist University was conducted. From 1921 to 1938, admission rules were published in periodicals. However, we compiled the rules of admission to the University by searching several sources, such as the Russian State Library, the Russian State Archive of Social and Political History, and the Archive of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The above-collected materials were analysed to achieve the goal of the article. Also, grouping work was carried out to understand each period's research results and features fully. In addition, establishing connections between the stages and analysing the internal structure of the systems and development patterns took place.

#### **Literature review**

For the first time, the history of the Communist University of the Workers of the East was touched

upon in the works of direct participants in the events of the 1920s–1930s, party and government figures responsible for the field of education, and some university leaders (Viktorov, 1923:261–267; Brojdo, 1924; Majanc, 1926:223–224; Mif, 1929:44–59). These works were not of a research nature and represented the first attempts to answer the most pressing questions and propaganda materials. Since the late 1930s, this topic has become forbidden due to strict political censorship and limitations of the source base and research tools. At the end of the 1950s, opportunities opened to return to the topic. However, the pressure of stereotypes remained in assessments of the nature and effectiveness of Soviet reforms in the field of ethnic relations in education. Until the mid-1980s, the history of Soviet party schools and communist universities, as particular institutions of the Soviet education system, was presented in the context of the successes of building a socialist society in the USSR. Certain aspects of the problem were reflected in the works of L.S. Leonova, in which an attempt was made to reveal not only the history of the formation of the party education system in the USSR as a whole but also the main trends in the activities of Soviet party schools and community universities in 1917–1975 (Leonova, 1972; Leonova, 1979). The recognised author of works devoted to the history of KUTV is Natalia Timofeeva (Timofeeva, 1976:47–57; Timofeeva, 1979:30–42.). Despite the processing and introduction of new historical material into scientific circulation, the specification of the problems discussed in the history of the Communist University of the Workers of the East and research activity at the regional level did not follow.

In the late 1980s – early 1990s, marked by the de-ideologisation of historical science and the declassification of previously inaccessible archival funds, attempts began to conceptually understand ethnonational politics and problems of indigenisation, a radical revision of the role of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks) – the CPSU in the fate of the country (Krasovickaja, 2007; Bazarova, 2008:53–55; Chebotareva, 2008). In line with these trends, the latest historiography of the history of KUTV and other universities for national minorities has developed at the all-Russian and regional levels (Ergin, 2008:141–152; Panin, 2012:165–168; Harunov, 2012:58–61; Mamysheva, 2014:110–113; Shashkova, 2018:704–716.).

Issues related to KUTV, in one way or another, have yet to escape the attention of foreign authors. The study of foreign units (in particular, Arab, Iranian, African-American, Chinese, Turkish, and African) in the structure of KUTV has intensified. The

scope of research has expanded significantly with the following issues: the content of courses intended for foreign cadets; the influence of the Comintern on the educational process; features of material and living conditions; the fate of Kutvyans after graduation (McClellan, 1993: 371-390.; Ravandi-Fadai, 2015:713-727; KuKhwa, 2015:175-207; Sicon, 2016:61-67). Chinese scientists have made a significant contribution to studying the vicissitudes of students' education at KUTV and the development of their life trajectories. Thus, Zhang Yuxin devoted her works to the issues of training personnel for revolutionary China within the walls of not only KUTV but also the Sun Yat-sen University of the Workers of China (UTK) (1925–1928), transformed into the Communist University of the Workers of China (KUTK) (Chzhan, 2015:91–105). Another Chinese researcher, Lü Syutsing, using declassified archive materials, analysed the sinological activities of the staff and students of KUTV as the leading centre of Soviet sinology in the 1920s–1930s (Ljuj, 2017:129–139). The book by the Chinese historian E. Fan, based on sizeable archival material, shows the work of the USSR to train personnel for revolutionary China in the 20s and 30s of the 20th century. The author emphasised the unprecedented nature of this large-scale personnel training program, which brought significant results. The Soviet state trained outstanding Chinese politicians (Ljuj, 2017:129–139) and military leaders (five out of ten PRC marshals studied in the USSR). The author described in detail the programs and conditions of study in the USSR and paid considerable attention to the influence of the internal party struggle in the CPSU(b) on the fate of the Chinese who studied in the USSR (E Fan', 2020).

One of the last significant works devoted to the history of KUTV and its students. Sabina Trebinjak's book "A Decade at the Communist University for the Workers from the East (1925-1935)" in which she explores the motives of the Soviet government in the formation of a new political-revolutionary elite from the Uyghurs in Xinjiang. In her book, she highlights students' living conditions and education levels. In general, there is an attempt to restore the fate of the Uyghur students of KUTV. (Trebinjac, 2023).

## Results and Discussion

The Comintern and the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) provided worldwide assistance in organising theoretical training for communist and revolutionary cadres of the

East and developing Marxist education. Soviet Russia naturally became a centre for training such personnel. In the 1920s and 1930s, many foreign revolutionaries and emigrants in the East studied at the Eastern Workers' Communist University (KUTV). The Communist University of Eastern Workers was the first party school in the world for representatives of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. In its walls, representatives of not only communist but also national liberation movements in colonial and dependent countries in foreign countries studied Marxist theory. At the same time, this educational institution annually trained many party and Soviet workers from the former colonies of Tsarist Russia.

Due to the complex situation in the national republics in the territory of the Soviet East, there was an excellent demand for party workers. Bolshevik organisations had to rely on the old local intelligentsia, which still did not fully spread the ideas of theoretical communism.

Many Party-Soviet workers and professional revolutionaries were needed to create a new life. In March 1919, at the 3rd Party Congress, V. I. Lenin, speaking of the particular need for personnel, said: "If we look at the layer of workers who ruled Russia in these years and carried out the policy that formed our strength, this layer is very "thin". ... If one day a future historian gathers data about which groups ruled in Russia during these 17 months, which thousands of people... bore the entire burden of governing the country, no one will believe that such a result can be achieved. There are too few because there are few intelligent, educated and capable political leaders in Russia. "This "thin layer" in Russia overworked itself, overworked, and did more than it could," he says (Lenin, 1969:38). If the number of forces in the central areas was insufficient, it was difficult to describe the situation on the republican outskirts. To change this situation and qualitatively improve the propaganda of communism, the Party program adopted at the 8th Congress of the Russian Communist Party held in 1919 emphasised the need to create a new socialist public education system, to turn schools and educational institutions into a tool for communist reconstruction of society. "By changing the field of education, organisation of studies and education of young people, we can create a communist society that is different from the old one," he said (Lenin 1981:41). According to the Decree of the Council of People's Commissars of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, "On the Rules of Admission to Higher Educational Institutions" published on August 28, 1918, entrance exams, tuition fees and social restrictions were abol-

ished. According to the decree, any citizen who has reached the age of 16, regardless of citizenship and gender, can become an applicant even if he does not have a certificate, diploma or certificate of secondary education (Sbornik dekretov, 1919:56). However, since this measure did not give the desired result in attracting workers and peasants to the university walls, since 1921, a special agreement was introduced on behalf of party, Komsomol and enterprise organisations. Students with a special dispatch card were admitted first but had to have training at the level of an II-level Soviet party school or workers' faculty. In 1921, enrolling was not forbidden even if there was no special dispatch paper, but their applications were considered only if there was a vacancy (Kupajgorodskaja, 1984:127).

Since 1922, the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR made essential changes in the education policy, one of which was to limit the admission of students without a letter of transfer to a higher education institution and, in some cases, even to reject their documents. Places allotted to general applicants are distributed among the leading sending organisations. Organisations such as the Workers' Faculty, the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party, the Central All-Union Council of Trade Unions, the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Union, and the Political Department of the Revolutionary Military Council had to send applicants according to class principles (Central et al. f. 601, l. 1, c. 350, sh. 46). The applicant's "origin" was the main factor in admission to the University.

The period of activity of the Eastern Workers' Communist University can be divided into three periods depending on the student admission policy. The first covered the period from 1921 to 1925 when organisational methods were just formed and strict requirements and rules were not established. During this period, Rabfak worked at the University for the first year, and after that, until 1925, the preparatory department worked. Therefore, the selection requirements were low in this period.

The second period covers the period 1925-1929. This period shows that the organisation of the educational process, admission requirements and selection conditions have increased by one level. Structural changes within the university took place during this period as well. A scientific institute for studying Eastern countries is established, the duration is fixed at four years, and a turn to the scientific direction takes place by training graduate students. It is visible that the quality level of students admitted to study has increased.

The third period, between 1930 and 1938, is characterised by the establishment of the Communist University of Eastern Workers as an educational institution with a consistent experience, like other high-party schools, and the growth of the quality and party loyalty of students from the regions.

The University approved the plan for students to be admitted for the 1921-1922 academic year at the meeting of the Small Council on May 20. Enrollment of students was expected to begin in June and end in August. It is planned to receive applications from 675 people for the "Turk" section, which includes Kazakhs (Russian et al. f. 532, l. 8, c. 1, sh. 7).

For the first academic year of 1921-1922, the announcement of the admission of students was broadcast by radio, as a result of which about 700 students were admitted. According to the data of September 1, 1921, the composition of students was as follows: men – 477; women – 87, i.e. 15% of students were women (Russian et al. f. 532, l. 8, c. 7, sh. 1-14).

According to our information, 15 students were sent from Kazakhstan for the 1921-1922 academic year. However, there needs to be specific information about their nationalities. The Kyrgyz regional committee (Kirobkom) selected and sent applicants. Seitkali Mendeshov selected students that year (Archive of the President et al f. 139, l. 1, c. 13a, sh. 68).

There were no strict rules and restrictions on the admission of the first students, along with party and Komsomol members; non-party, poorly educated and illiterate citizens were admitted to the University. Analysing the reports of the university and department heads' rector, we conclude that, at first, there was an age limit for students.

Since 1922, the allocation of seats and examinations in the University's admission requirements and local selection system has been carefully conducted. Along with short-term courses, a 3-year primary education course was opened at the Eastern Workers' Communist University. The rules for admission of students for this academic year were published in the newspaper "Zhizn' natsional'nostey". In this academic year, along with members of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) and the Russian Communist Youth Union, citizens who were not party members were admitted. However, persons who have not joined the party can become a student of the Eastern Workers' Communist University only if they have a particular letter of recommendation. Short-term course entrants were not required to know Russian. Main course entrants were required to be fluent in Russian, as classes in the main course

were expected to be conducted only in Russian (O prieme v Kommunisticheskiy Universitet..., 1922:2). For the 1922-1923 academic year, 20 seats were allocated to the Kirobkom, however, the Kirobkom secretaries allocated a total of 28 seats as follows:

Semey province – 4 seats for the Kyrgyz nationality, one seat for a citizen of the Tatar nationality,  
 Ural province – 3 Kyrgyz, 2 Tatars;  
 Aktobe province – 2 Kyrgyz, 1 Tatar;  
 Kostanai – 3 Kyrgyz;  
 Akmola – 3 Kyrgyz, 1 Tatar;  
 Orinbor – 2 Kyrgyz and 1 Tatar;  
 Bokei – 2 Kyrgyz;  
 Sparrow – 2 Kyrgyz;  
 Adai – 1 Kyrgyz. (here, the Kyrgyz name should be understood as Kazakh).

In conclusion, 22 – Kyrgyz and 6 – Tatars will be sent to study at the Eastern Workers' Communist University. (Archive of the President et al f. 139, l. 1, c. 446, sh. 96). As a result, in the 1922-1923 academic year, 12 Kazakh students from the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) SSR and 29 Kazakh students from the Turkestan SSR entered the Communist University of Eastern Workers. (Russian et al. f. 532, l. 1, c. 2, sh. 27-29).

In the following academic years, the planned distribution of places was published in the rules of admission of the Eastern Workers' Communist University. Depending on the number of places allocated there, there was a division in local areas based on gubernias and regions. Representatives of local authorities controlled the national composition of applicants and the presence of women among applicants.

Between 1921 and 1938, 15 Kazakh women were educated at the Eastern Workers' Communist University. The central part of those who applied to study corresponds to 1922-1923. After all, the admission requirements were very easy for Eastern women in those years. Among the seven women who applied to study this year, three are illiterate, and the rest indicated in the survey that they were "self-educated" or "completed secondary school" in the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) language.

In the following years, such a flow of women applying for studies was not observed until 1925. Moreover, from 1925 to 1930, no Kazakh women were among those applying for studies. Only in 1931 did three Kazakh women enter the Eastern Workers' Communist University. The level of women who enrolled in the 1930s differed significantly from that of the previous applicants. These students were fully immersed in the educational system based on

socialist ideology and had undergone all the training before entering the Communist University of the Workers of the East.

In traditional Kazakh society, women are perceived primarily as mothers and active persons only in housework. Moreover, in the first years of the University's opening, the fact that so many Kazakh women were hoping to get an education is a situation worth paying attention to. At first glance, such activity of Kazakh women can be accepted as the result of the work of the department conducting propaganda among women in that region. However, looking one level deeper, we notice that the Kazakh woman has yet to stray far from her traditional identity. For example, in 1922, women who applied to study became education candidates only thanks to their husbands. Let us take a look at the request below. "At the expense of the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Republic, we were accepted as students of Bergaliev and Sarpeev Eastern Workers' Communist University and members of the commune. In addition, we have

women who were sent at the expense of the Kyrgyz (Kazakh) Republic and are currently admitted to the training department. Bergalieva Shaizha and Sarpeeva Fatima do not know the Russian language at all; they cannot communicate without an interpreter because they live only among representatives of their nationality. Due to the abovementioned situation, we request that Commune Management allow us to live in the same room with our women. Living in the same room, we can teach them Russian and help them in other subjects." (Russian et al. f. 532, l. 8, c. 30, sh. 79).

In the first five years of the establishment of the Eastern Workers' Communist University, a special training department worked at the University. Since 1925, the students' potential growth has transferred them to extramural training without separating them from their work.

You can see the change in the admission requirements of the Eastern Workers' Communist University in Table 1.

**Table 1** – Information about the requirements for admission to the Eastern Workers' Communist University

1922-1923 academic year	1925-1926 academic year	1931-1932 academic year
<p>Accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the Russian Communist Party, Russian Communist Youth Union, or non-party members (in the case of a letter of recommendation from the Regional Committee or the Gubernia Committee);</li> <li>• It is good to have experience in Soviet and party work;</li> <li>• Paying more attention to class origin;</li> <li>• Men are also accepted to study with women;</li> <li>• Applicants for the short-term course do not need to know Russian, and those applying for the main 2-year course must have a good command of Russian.</li> <li>• Since the living conditions in Moscow are difficult for citizens of Eastern nationality, healthy citizens should be sent.</li> </ul>	<p>Accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• primarily workers and workers;</li> <li>• only members of the Russian Communist Party and the Russian Communist Union Youth;</li> <li>• two years of Komsomol work experience;</li> <li>• two years of party work experience;</li> <li>• citizens over 20 years of age;</li> <li>• must be citizens of local nationality;</li> <li>• Admission to the preparatory department is not carried out;</li> <li>• competent in mother tongue and Russian;</li> <li>• be able to perform arithmetic operations with whole and fractional numbers;</li> <li>• meeting level I of the Soviet party school with political skills;</li> <li>• Starting from June 15, 1.5 months of leave for training will be given to the applicant while keeping his salary;</li> <li>• admission of students will take place between August 15-25;</li> </ul>	<p>Accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Party work experience is not less than five years;</li> <li>• three years in a responsible management position;</li> <li>• Citizens aged 23-34;</li> <li>• women's party work experience is not less than two years;</li> <li>• selection in local places should be completed on November 15, 1930;</li> <li>• Giving time for extramural training from 15.12.1930 to 15.05.1931;</li> <li>• A course conference is held in Moscow from June 1 to August 1, 1931 (at this time, he should be sent on vacation while keeping his salary);</li> <li>• After the conference, enrollment will begin on August 5;</li> <li>• August 5 – September 1 camp meeting;</li> <li>• September 1, studies begin;</li> <li>• Ready level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russian language – textbook "Русский язык для не русских" by Danilov;</li> <li>- Mathematics – Davydov, Kvyatin textbook.</li> <li>- From geography – reading a physical and political map;</li> <li>- From political economy – Lapidus and Ostrovsky «Political economy in connection with the theory of the Soviet economy»;</li> <li>- History of VK(b)P – Yaroslavsky «Short history of VKP(b)», Stalin «About Lenin and Leninism»;</li> <li>- History of class struggle – Monosov's «History of the revolutionary movement»</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

As we can see in the table, the requirements for admission to the Communist University of Eastern Workers were supplemented according to the changes in society, and great importance was attached to the training of applicants. After all, the education given within the walls of the University needed not to remain at a different level than the level of re-transmission of party schools and Soviet-party schools operating locally. This is because, if we consider the hierarchical structure of party education at that time, the Eastern Workers' Communist University was one of the highest levels of party education. That is why laboratories analysing the theoretical basis of party activity functioned in this educational institution, where graduate students who developed the theoretical basis of socialist education studied and worked. There were also students from the Kazakh field who had completed postgraduate studies at this educational institution.

Moreover, now, let us focus on the preparation issue in more detail. As shown in the general table, the work of the training department in KUTV was not stable. 1921-1925 During this period, a special training department served (\*in today's sense, it is like an "undercourse"). The purpose of the preparatory course in this period was to open up the students' literacy and to form the basic concepts and understandings of the socialist society.

Since 1925, the work of the preparatory course has been stopped, and the University has changed the training of applicants to an external form. That is, the management of the University offers applicants a list of literature to pass the entrance exams and requires them to be released from their jobs for 1.5-2 months. However, although everything seems easy in the form of rules, it took work to implement these issues. Let us analyse the examples below. In 1930, Mambetbaev Ryspay, who was sent to study, wrote in his application to the local regional committee: "Decree of the Secretariat to 7/II-c.r. For number 124, Kazkraykom allowed me to study and booked a place at KUTV. Since then, I hired a teacher and started preparing..." shows. (Archive of the President et al., fund 141, list 1, case 3654, page 29).

Analysing the petitions of the applicants in 1935, it is known that in that year, the Eastern Workers' Communist University organised special training courses in large local cities. For example, Ayupov Rakhmetul, who works as an instructor in the Shelek district, applied to send preparatory courses in Almaty, "Attached with this characteristic, I am requesting to enrol in the preparatory courses of KUTV in the city of Alma-Ata for six months with an apartment in the city. In Alma-Ata, I studied with

my family in my brother's house. Decree of the Bureau of the RK VKP(b) dated 25/II-35 g. I have been selected to study at KUTV, named after Stalin in Moscow, so please enrol me in preparatory courses and report to the address: Chilik Raykom VKP(b) Alma-Ata Oblast. » (Archive of the President et al., fund 141, list 1, case 10119, page 56.).

From 1921 to 1938, when the Communist University of Eastern Workers was active, it organised the preparation for entering the University at different levels, increasing the selection requirements for various applicants. At first, they were in the form of party schools and Rabfak at the University, and later, they were organised as a preparatory course for students to develop political and grammatical literacy. At a time when socialist ideas spread widely and became deeply rooted in society, and controversial questions related to the direction of the party decreased in society, the preparation problem was assigned to the applicants themselves and to the sending local body.

### Conclusion

The communist system of education and upbringing is a system that has gone through very complex stages. Many organisations, covering several levels, have contributed to the formation of this system. It is known that after the civil war, the Soviet power system, in order to strengthen its position, immediately paid particular attention to the education and training system and moved to form new paradigms. In this presented article, we have analysed the methods and requirements for selecting students of the Communist University of the Eastern Workers, which was engaged in forming and promoting the international-level communist educational system. As we mentioned above, SHEKU served in two directions. One was to create a politically active person who had absorbed the model of communist education and was ready to promote it to the representatives of the eastern nationalities in the foreign region (Chinese et al., etc.), and the other direction was to make communists from the representatives of the local population. It was the training of personnel who absorbed education and upbringing. Such cadres were supposed to become reliable employees serving in local authorities. However, the local population's level of education and centuries-old traditions prevented them from entering the new proposed order immediately. According to the initial plan, the Communist University of the Eastern Workers planned to teach the Russian language to the representatives of the local eastern population. However, it had to organise language sections in the

same way as it opened sections for foreign sections. At the same time, in the first years, even if they had no education, they were allowed to become a student at a higher educational institution by submitting their documents, so there were a lot of entirely illiterate students, and they had to organise literacy courses and initial training courses for them. Thus, it was planned to abandon the original plan and bring it to the level where a student from the Eastern Workers' Communist University could learn at least the basic "Azbuka Communism", understand circulars and notices while serving in local bodies, and monitor its implementation. In the first 2-3 years, since the quality level of applicants was too low, and also, after the organisation of elementary schools providing communist education in local areas, students who had completed the 1st level of the Soviet Party School or had an education of Rabfak began to be sent to Moscow for the competition with unique dispatch papers. The number and quality of

students during this period differed; among these students, some specialists continued their education at the postgraduate school opened at the Communist University of the Eastern Workers and later worked as teachers at the Party and Red Professorship Institutes in the territory of the KazSRC. In general, between 1921 and 1938, the requirements for admission to the Eastern Workers' Communist University changed according to the times; only after 1929 did it reach specific stability, a unique training program competition requirements were created, and preparatory courses for students who wanted to study at this educational institution began to be organised.

In general, students educated at the Eastern Workers' Communist University later became the leading personnel in the Soviet authorities in Kazakhstan. That is why it is a question of great interest what selection requirements and training they have passed and at what level of education they have received from this educational institution.

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