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**Historiography
and sources of the problem
of the Soviet prisoners-of-war
of Kazakh ethnicity
in the Second World War**

During the Second World War, European ideas of liberation, fighting with fascism were widespread. In Western European countries the Resistance Movements to Nazi and collaborators were very actively in France, Italy, Holland, Belgium and other countries. During the WWII, according to the German High Command 5 million 270 thousand Soviet soldiers were taken as prisoners-of-war. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR 4 million 559,000 Soviet people was captured. And all of them were kept in concentration camps in Europe. Thousands of them escaped from concentration and labor camps and joined to the resistance movements in the Nazi-occupied territories. It is known that Kazakhs fought in the fronts of the WWII in the ranks of the active Soviet army, and Kazakhstan was a safe rear area that produced every third bullet for the front, sheltered people evacuated from the Soviet territories occupied by the Nazis, etc. But participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movements in occupied European countries and Germany itself still awaits its researchers. On the basis of Kazakh and foreign materials the article highlights historiography and sources of the problem of Soviet prisoners-of-war in the Second World War (on the example of Kazakhs).

Key words: Kazakhs; Second World War; resistance movement; prisoners of war; Turkestan legion; partisans.

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**Екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс
кезіндегі кеңестік соғыс
тұтқындары мәселесі және
қазақтардың тарихнамасы мен
деректері**

Мақалада Екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс кезіндегі кеңестік соғыс тұтқындары мәселесі қазақстандық және шетел деректері мен тарихнамасында көрініс табады. (қазақтардың мысалында). Қазақстан, Ресей және Белоруссияда соғыс тұтқындарына арналған еңбектер, соның ішінде тарихнамалық зерттеулер күшейтілді. Кеңестік соғыс тұтқындары мәселесі әлі күнге дейін адамзат санасында тиым салған және тек қана сыни көзбен қарау, айып тағу сияқты түсініктермен қалып қойған. Дегенмен соңғы кездері оңды қозғалыстар байқалуда. Мысалы, із-түссіз жоғалған жауынгерлердің туыстары оларды іздестіруде. Аталмыш мәселе мемлекеттік дәрежеге дейін жетті. Ресей мұрағаттары ақпараттық базаларды Қазақстан Республикасының Қорғаныс министрлігіне жіберуде. Іздестіру топтары шайқас болған жерлерді зерттеп, табылған деректердің негізінде ғылыми мақалалар мен кітаптар жариялауда. 2015 жылы Екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс кезіндегі Кеңес халқының Ұлы жеңісіне 70 жыл толды. Бұл соғысқа қазақтардың қатысқандығы әлі күнге дейін толық зерттелмеді. Жалпы, қазақтардың екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс фронттарында соғысқандары қазіргі таңдағы қазақтардың тарих беттеріндегі үлкен ерлігі болып табылады.

Түйін сөздер: Қазақтар, Екінші дүниежүзілік соғыс, қарсылықтар және соғыс барысы, соғыс тұтқындары, Түркістан легионы, партизандар туралы.

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**Историография и источники
проблем советских
военнопленных-казахов
в годы Второй мировой войны**

В статье на казахстанском и зарубежном материале освещается историография и проблемы советских военнопленных в годы Второй мировой войны (на примере казахов). В Казахстане, России, Белоруссии активизировались исследования, посвященные военной тематике, в том числе историографическим исследованиям. Проблема советских военнопленных до сих пор в сознании многих людей остается запретной и требующей лишь критики и осуждения. Тем не менее, наблюдаются положительные сдвиги. Например, родственники без вести пропавших воинов ведут их поиск. Данная проблема выходит на государственный уровень, когда архивы России безвозмездно передают информационные базы Министерству обороны Республики Казахстан. Поисковые отряды ведут поиск захоронений в местах ожесточенных боев и на основе найденных материалов публикуют статьи и книги. В 2015 г. исполнилось 70 лет Великой Победы советского народа во Второй мировой войне, в которой участие казахов до сих пор остается малоисследованным. Известно, что казахи воевали на фронтах Второй мировой войны, однако участие казахов в Движении Сопrotивления на территории оккупированных европейских государств и в самой Германии до сих пор ждет своих исследователей.

Ключевые слова: казахи, Вторая мировая война, движение сопротивления, военнопленные, Туркестанский легион, партизаны.

**HISTORIOGRAPHY
AND SOURCES OF
THE PROBLEM OF THE
SOVIET PRISONERS-
OF-WAR OF KAZAKH
ETHNICITY IN THE
SECOND WORLD WAR**

2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the Great Victory of the Soviet people in the Second World War, but Kazakhs' participation in that war still remains poorly studied. It is known that Kazakhs fought in many fronts of the Second World War but participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movements in occupied European countries and Germany itself still awaits its researchers. These heroic pages of the modern history of Kazakhs are still closed for Kazakhstan's, European and World public communities.

Though 70 years have passed since the end of the Second World War, and hundreds of thousands books dedicated to the war history have been written, this event retains all its importance and remains a discussion point both in Kazakh and foreign historiography. Not only the reasons and progress of the war, but also the numbers of demobilized, dead, captured and safely returned home the Soviet soldiers as well as many other issues still provide ample food for polemics. Soviet historiography answered these questions; however, it turned out that the provided data was significantly distorted; also, due to the fact that the families of many dead soldiers did not survive the war, in many cases there was simply no one to search for the missing soldiers. For example, in Great Britain virtually every dead or captured soldier was accounted for. Correspondingly their casualties were hundreds of thousands times less than Soviet losses.

It is known that Kazakhs fought in the fronts of the Second World War in the ranks of the active Soviet army and Kazakhstan was a safe rear area that produced every third bullet for the front, sheltered people evacuated from the Soviet territories occupied by the Nazis etc.

However, even 70 years later in the Kazakh society, like in the whole post-Soviet space, there are ongoing discussions about the number of soldiers lost as prisoners.

In Kazakhstan, Russia and Byelorussia there is an ongoing active research into war-related issues including various historiographical studies. Against the background of abandoning formal approach, historic research is in search for new methods of investigation of the unknown pages of history. Experienced history scholars and young researchers alike are researching this problem.

The problem of Soviet prisoners of war is still a sub-conscious taboo for many people that bears only criticism and reproach. Nev-

ertheless, some positive changes are becoming visible. For example, relatives of missing soldiers search for them. This problem acquires State-level importance when Russian archives deliver to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kazakhstan their information bases free of charge. Search groups are looking for burial sites in the areas of fierce fighting and publish articles and books on the basis of retrieved material.

In the frame of the State program of historical research «A nation in the stream of history» a comprehensive study «The participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War in Western Europe» takes place in Kazakhstan. It should be noted that Professor Gulnara Mendikulova found and identified documents from the National Archives of France, archives in Toulouse and Tarn, etc. It causes several thousand names of Kazakhs and Turkestani, who fought in the European resistance movements were found. Kazakhs, along with other nations, fought for European ideas on the occupied territories by Nazis.

According to the French newspaper «West France», published an article «Kazakhs in the French Resistance Movement,» over a hundred Kazakhs participated in the liberation movement of the Resistance in the south of France near the city of Toulouse. There are well known for their heroism guerrilla groups, led by the Kazakhs, such as: Kadem Zhumaniyazov, Zunum Zhamankulov and Akhmet Bektaev.

In 1943 there was a turning point in the war, and European ideas have spread throughout occupied Europe by means of written in Italy «Manifesto for a United States of Europe.»

Participants to the Resistance Movement advocated a postwar unification of Europe through the elimination of nation states. It should be noted that further study is the comparative analysis of European and Eurasian integration ideas on the basis of materials and documents signed during the presidency of Kazakhstan in OSCE in 2011. We would like to offer the next article devoted to the historical facts of the Kazakh participation to the resistance movements in European countries as well.

In this article we want to focus on a review of the literature on the problems of war, including the Kazakh members of the European resistance movement.

In this article we consider it appropriate to review literary sources in their historical dynamics. It is well known that during the war and until I.V.Stalin's death the problem of Soviet prisoners of war was forbidden. 1956 was the starting point of relevant studies when the Central Committee of

the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of USSR promulgated the decree «Regarding the elimination of major breaches of law against former prisoners of war and members of their families» dated June 29, 1956 followed by the XX Congress of the CPSU.

Russian historiography on this problem may be divided in two stages: from late 1950s to late 1980s and from early 1990s to present time. In Soviet period the history of Nazi concentration camps was studied by N.M. Lemeschuk [1], A.I. Poltorak [2] and others who in one way or another investigated the fate of Soviet prisoners of war. At that time historical and documental works, literary fiction works and monographs were published. Works by E.A. Brodsky [3], V.I. Klovov [4], P.S. Romashkin [5] and others belong to this category. Yossif Iserovich Malyar studied the problems of participation of Kazakhstan citizens in the fight against the Nazis in Europe. In the article «Participation of Kazakhstan citizens in the European resistance movement» the author notes that «hundreds of Kazakh soldiers took part in the resistance movement and in some countries (Yugoslavia, Italy, France) they even formed small units» [6]. Documents on the formation of national units of the Red Army prisoners of war destined to be a part of the army for combat against the USSR were published in 1995 [7].

Major scientific works on the repatriation of former Soviet prisoners of war were written in the 1990s by such authors as M.P. Polyanyan [8] and M.I. Semiryaga [9]. Works by N.P. Dembitsky [10], V.Y. Albov [11], memoirs of G.N. Satirov [12], dedicated to the studies of the fate of Soviet prisoners of war in the Second World War should also be mentioned.

In 1999 joint efforts of Russian scholars resulted in the book «Great Patriotic War. 1941-1945. Military and historical essays. Book 4. People and the war» [13].

In 2005 in his monograph «Soviet prisoners of war in Nazi Germany 1941-1945: Study problems» M.E. Yerin for the first time in Russian literature analyzed Soviet, Russian and German historiography on Soviet prisoners of war in the Third Reich: from its origin to our days. The book reviews in detail the stages of development of Russian and German historiography and their particular features. The author compares different views and evaluations of scientists on the problems of German captivity and bears testimony to the debate of historians of the two countries on the key aspects of the problem under discussion. The results of the study may be used for development of specific lectures on the his-

tory of the German Fascism and the Second World War [14].

Previously unavailable sources which have been published are of great importance. In 1999 in Moscow for the first time were published confidential letters of two leaders of political émigrés – Mustafa Shokay and Zeki Validi [15]. This collection of letters compiled by candidate of historical sciences S.M. Iskhakov sheds light on many unknown pages of Russian and Turkestan emigration. This publication is necessary for restoration of historical truth about the internal dissensions among Turkestan émigrés and other rather sensitive issues.

In European and American historiography the problem of Soviet prisoners of war was examined in the works of A. Dallin [16], Sh. Dutner [17], G.-A. Jacobsen [18], A. Wert [19], K. Streit [20] and others.

In his monography «German rule in Russia 1941-1945» American historian Alexander Dallin examines the questions of the partisan and resistance movement paying special attention to political goals of Germany with regard to various nations of the USSR which was in practice fairly multifarious [16].

The book «1939-1945. Second World War. Chronicle and documents» presents the views of the renowned Western historians: West German scientist G.-A. Jacobsen and English scientist A. Taylor on the events of the Second World War. Information, reference, memoir and documental materials are of exceptional importance; most of them were published in Russian language for the first time. The book's publishing was timed to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War [18].

The book of prominent Polish historian and publicist doctor Shimon Dutner «Crimes of the German Fascist Wehrmacht perpetrated against prisoners of war in the Second World War» exposes the bestial, inhuman essence of Fascism and its monstrous crimes committed during the war years against Soviet and other prisoners of war. The book is based on vast evidence and documents of Hitler's Wehrmacht [17].

In the book of the «Sunday Times» and BBC reporter Alexander Wert «Russia in war» the total number of Soviet prisoners of war is estimated at 5 millions 754 thousands. A. Wert was in the USSR from July 1941 to 1946; later he wrote, as he put it, «a human history» based on his own impressions, documents and other original sources. The book was first published in USA in 1964, then in England, France, German Federal Republic and

other countries. It was thought to have opened the eyes of Western readers on the true events that had taken place on the Eastern front and in Russia. «I did everything in my power to tell the West about the war effort of the Soviet people» said A. Wert about his reporting activity. His words can also be applied to his book. It was published in Russian language in 1967 in a small number and was never published again becoming a bibliographic rarity [19].

The study of the professor of the Heidelberg University Christian Streit «Wehrmacht and Soviet prisoners of war in 1941-1945» is the most cited book on Soviet prisoners of war. The book was published many times in Germany, but its full edition was not published in Russia until 2009. It is dedicated to the fate of more than 5.7 million Soviet prisoners of war who were in the camps and forced labor in Germany in 1941-1945. The book is a result of many years of careful research by its author; thousands of documents kept in German archives were used for its preparation. Its first edition (1978) provoked animosity and fierce discussions both among Soviet and German military historians [20].

The history of Turkmenistan legion keeps attracting foreign historians. In 2012 Polish journal «Polska Zbrojna» published an article by historian Adam Kaczinsky «Eastern legions or death». According to it, the reason which induced prisoners of war to enter the legions was «an elementary human need to leave the camps». The author summarizes that the Eastern legions of the Nazis «mostly fulfilled auxiliary functions and fought the partisans» [21].

Kazakh historiography on military and historical themes and participation of Kazakh citizens in the Second World War is represented by the works of authors A.N. Nusupbekov [22], G.A. Abishev [23], M.K. Kozybayev [24], N.E. Yedigenov [25], P.S. Belan [26], A.I. Ismailov [27].

The Memory Book of Kazakhstan «Bozdaktar» published in 1995 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Victory was the first attempt to provide a full statistical overview of the war. This book contains the names of those who was killed in fighting, died from wounds and diseases in hospitals, died in enemy rear areas or went missing. Regional «Memory Books» and the consolidated work «Bozdaktar» is a real monument to the dead of the war [28].

It is known that Kazakhs fought in many fronts of the Second World War but participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movements of occupied European countries still awaits its researchers. These heroic pages of the modern history of Kazakhs are still

closed for Kazakhstan's general public even though the story of each Kazakh and Kazakh citizen who participated in the Second World War is unique and dramatic.

In Kazakh historiography the study of participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War in European countries leaves much to be desired. Of course, in the Soviet period not only was this theme relegated to the back ranks of history, but it was branded as a forbidden theme. Anybody who for some reason had had to leave the country or lived outside Soviet Union was labeled as «traitor and spy». Under the command and bureaucratic system the very mention of «former citizens» was a pretext for repressions against political and cultural figures.

Scientific works by G.M. Mendikulova [29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34], B.I. Sadykova [35, 36], B.G. Ayagan [37], A. Kar [38], A. Kaken [39], S. Bekenov [40] and others are devoted to the study of participation of Kazakh soldiers in the Second World War.

The problem of participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War in European countries remains complex and consists of several separate questions, such as: participation of Kazakhs in the Great Patriotic War, participation of Kazakhs in «Turkmenistan legion», participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movement and partisan groups, repatriation of prisoners of war to the USSR and defectors.

Major works of the Soviet and Kazakh historiography have been dedicated to the question of participation of Kazakhs and Kazakhstan in the Great Patriotic War [5]; however the other three themes remain neglected.

This status quo is explained by ideological interdiction of the Soviet period and non-existent access to archive documents both in our country and abroad. Today researchers of the independent Kazakhstan are able to contribute to the study of these problems.

Research on Turkestan legion is limited to the book by B.Sadykova «Turkestan legion» based on German archive documents, chapters in the book and articles of professor, doctor of historical sciences G.M.Mendikulova, professor, doctor of historical sciences B.Ayagan, candidate of historical sciences K.S.Aldazhumanov [41] and several other researchers developed on the basis of painstaking work of collection of documents from the archives of France, Russia, Kazakhstan, USA and other countries.

In this connection, there are interesting documents in the collection of Maria Shokay «I'm writing to you from Nozhan...» [42] prepared by

doctor of political sciences B.Sadykova published in Almaty in 2001. Besides the memoirs of Maria Shokay that she started writing after the death of Mustafa Shokay, it contains personal correspondence with former Turkestan legionaries and leaders of Russian emigration; its annex features articles conducive to better understanding of the political situation of pre-war Europe that influenced the acts of Mustafa Shokay.

The first scientific work in Kazakh historiography dedicated to the problems of Kazakh diaspora was the monograph by G.M.Mendikulova «Historic fate of Kazakh diaspora. Its origin and evolution» published in 1997 [30]. In the revised 2006 edition «Kazakh diaspora: history and modern times» a separate section is devoted to the participation of Kazakhs in the French resistance movement [32] and other topics.

Recollections, memoirs and interviews are very valuable in terms of preparation of a historic research. Memoires and interviews as a historic source are invariably important for a researcher since they transmit past events through the view of their participants and contemporaries.

Starting in the early 1990s memoirs of war participants, former legionaries and prisoners of war began to be published. In 1993 were published Aitkesh Tolganbayev's recollections «A confession of a cruel fate» [43] in which the author reveals in agonizing pain the bitterness of life in the Nazi prisons and the magic of music and violin that helped him survive the captivity. He dedicated his recollections to the victims of Nazi and Soviet concentration camps; in lieu of a foreword he wrote: «I did not betray my Motherland, I did not swear an oath of allegiance to the enemy, I never held a weapon or committed an act that could have hurt my people. Falling wounded into Nazi captivity, I did my best to return to the Motherland and prove that the label they stuck onto me 45 years ago was all wrong».

In 1994 professor, doctor of historical sciences G.M.Mendikulova met and interviewed two Kazakh defectors, former legionaries Mukhtar Karabay and Kuntugan Bayzelbek; afterwards she wrote an article published in «Evening Almaty» newspaper [29]. It should be pointed out from the outset that those were the first interviews of former legionaries to Kazakh scientists. Another interview was taken in France by Bakhyt Sadykova who met former Turkestan legionary Michel (Madiyar) Baizhanov in the early 1990s.

A special attention should be paid to scientific works of B.I.Sadykova, political scientist, author of

numerous scientific and op-ed articles, studies on the life of M.Shokay and the history of Turkmenistan legion, screenplay writer for a documentary film «Zar or banished from the Motherland». In 2002 in Almaty «Kainar» editorial house published a collection of documents under the title «The history of Turkmenistan legion in documents» developed by doctor of political sciences B.Sadykova. The collection includes documents in original languages many of which were introduced to Kazakh circles of social sciences for the first time. One of the merits of the collection was a material devoted to participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movement in southern France, as well as documents about the consequent destiny of the legionaries following their return to the Motherland [35].

The bulk of data was discovered in German archives which increases the value of this document collection.

The work of B.I.Sadykova «The history of Turkmenistan legion in documents» reviews for the first time the activity of the Turkestan national liberation movement set up by Mustafa Shokay in Europe, its tactics and strategy. The author takes into account an important detail: the Turkestan national liberation movement had to act in an unusual situation against the background of confrontation of two rival ideologies – Nazism and Communism that unleashed the bloody conflict. In 2009 on the basis of analysis of works of Mustafa Shokay written in various languages, large body of materials from European archive centers and juxtaposition of differing opinions on the problem in the monograph «Mustafa Shokay in emigration» she discovered the essence and character of M.Shokay's activity in Europe. The book also analyzes political decision of M.Shokay to lend assistance to Turkestan prisoners of war [36].

Kazakh historian, political scientist B.Ayagan in his book «The reds and the blacks (from materials of the Hoover archive» reveals hitherto unknown to political science materials taken from the resources of the famous Hoover Institute (archive) in USA. The book contains a wealth of historic material, including diaries, letters and notes of prisoners of war [37].

Associate professor of Mimar Sinan University A.Kara wrote a book relating about the bitter fate of the former soldiers of Turkestan legion, a constituent unit of Hitler's army [38]. Alongside this book, a memoir – article «I was in the Turkestan legion» was published on the pages of Internet resources. It gives an account of Akhmetbek Nurumov who was captured a month after the start of the war,

and survived a prisoner-of-war camp in Poland, Turkestan legion and Kolyma Gulag camps. He was sentenced for high treason and still waits for an acquittal [44].

The book of prominent Kazakh journalist A. Kaken based on various sources is dedicated to the history of Turkestan legion [39]. In 2007 a book of recollections by S. Bekenov, one of the prisoners of Nazi camps was published under the editorship of B.G.Ayagan [40].

The problems of participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movements in occupied European countries and Germany are still poorly studied and await its researchers. These heroic pages of the modern history of Kazakhs are still closed for Kazakhstan's and world general public.

A research project «Participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War in West European countries» was initiated on this theme through the State program of historical research «A nation in the stream of history»; it is expected to be funded through 2014-2016. The participants of the project have studied the problems of the Second World War for a number of years and are trying to fill out the gaps in the history of the Second World War that have not yet received due attention; clarify many facts and events of the world history featuring a direct and close connection to the history of Kazakhstan contributing to objective recreation of true historical events in this area.

The first book published in the framework of the project was a round table reports volume «Participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War in Western European countries» [45]. In this work Kazakh scientists made an attempt to recreate the real circumstances of contribution of Kazakh former prisoners of war of the Reich who escaped from concentration and labor camps and heroically fought against Nazism in resistance movements and partisan fighting groups in various countries of Western Europe during the Second World War.

A specific objective of the round table reports volume was to eliminate labels, clarify the situation and present independent opinion on the problem at hand.

Now we would like to take a closer look at some problems related to the studies of participation of Kazakhs in the Second World War such as:

Activity of Mustafa Shokay and the idea of creation of Turkmenistan legion;

Kazakh prisoners of war of the Wehrmacht;

Turkestan legion and the problem of defectors;

Kazakh military experts in the Western European countries;

Participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movements in the countries of Western Europe;

Repatriation of former prisoners of war and legionaries to the Motherland;

All these highlighted themes have been discussed in the round table and subsequent studies of Kazakh scientists.

The first part of the collection contains scientific articles and extracts from memoirs of those who directly took part in the events or members of their families.

The second part contains only archive documents and materials, many of them are published for the first time. A list of Kazakh prisoners of war from the archive of Mustafa Shokay collected by a special commission in August-October 1941 is introduced. After Mustafa Shokay's death, his wife Maria Shokay gave these invaluable documents into the custody of INALCO library (L'institut national des langues et civilisations orientales – Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilization) in Paris.

Analysis of the lists has shown that the Red Army soldiers who fell captive in the first days of the war had, at least, secondary education and were professional teachers, technicians, agriculturists and engineers. As a matter of fact, they were used as cannon fodder and delivered unarmed to the bayonets and bullets of the enemy. In the political repressions of 1930s Kazakhstan had lost its political and cultural elite; in the first days and months of the war the engineering and technical capital of our nation was destroyed. According to documents, just from the Allied occupation zones 26 thousands Kazakhs were repatriated after the war; the number of the perished is still unknown...

For this reason the scientists of Kazakhstan decided to conduct a systematic and complex research and recreate the real circumstances of contribution of Kazakh former prisoners of war of the Reich who escaped from concentration and labor camps and heroically fought against Fascism in the resistance movements and partisan fighting groups in various countries of Western Europe during the Second World War.

Special attention should be drawn to the fact that a reality-true account on this problem cannot be given without archive documents kept in the archive storage of European countries.

Professor, doctor of historical sciences G.M.Mendikulova conducted preliminary collection of archive documents in the National Archive of France (Archives nationales), INALCO Archive, Library of the Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (Bibliothèque de l'Institut

National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales – Archives Mustafa Shokay Bey) [46] and the Museum of National Resistance of France (*Musée de la Résistance Nationale*); contacts and tentative agreements have been concluded with municipal archives in Southern France – in Toulouse, Tarn, Albi, Aude, Tarn-et-Garonne on the assistance in access to these important documents not only from the point of view of Kazakh history but of the history of Central Asia as well.

In Belgium Kazakh diplomats discovered burial sites of Kazakh members of the resistance movement. Considerable information about Kazakhs who fought against Nazism is stored in Belgian archives.

In Norwegian archives professor, doctor of historical sciences G.M.Mendikulova and candidate of historical sciences A.Z.Gabdullina have also discovered lists of Kazakhs and Kazakh citizens – prisoners of war who were held in the camps in this country; similar information is reported from Sweden.

Kazakhs also took part in the resistance movement in Italy; relevant historical documents are still waiting for their researchers.

It is known that Kazakhs were kept in concentration and labor camps in Belgium and Holland. There is no doubt that materials about them are available in the national archives of these countries.

And, of course, documents about participation of Kazakhs in the resistance movement, mirroring the history of Turkestan legion, are stored in the national archives of Germany first explored by doctor of political sciences B.Sadykova.

The documents to be extracted are not available either in Kazakhstan or in the CIS countries; they are stored only in the national and municipal archives of France, Belgium, Germany, Norway, Holland, Italy, Sweden and Great Britain. For this reason the participants of this project need to organize full-scale expeditions to the above mentioned countries for the purpose of making copies of the documents. This is an essential condition for an important breakthrough scientific result.

The second book published in the framework of the State purpose-oriented scientific program «A nation in the stream of history» in 2015 is called «Duty and honor (Participation of Kazakh citizens in the Second World War and the Great Patriotic War in European countries)». This collective monograph describes the key events of the Second World War and Great Patriotic War from 1939 to 1945; its authors made an effort to present an integral overview of participation of Kazakh citizens from

the start of the war until its end at the Tokyo war tribunal. Most photographs, illustrative and factual materials are introduced to scientific research for the first time. For the first time in historical science a map – guide of military units has been developed. The digital version of the book will be made available in Internet, it will be openly accessible and everyone will be able to make proposals and offer additional information on these problems [47].

In summary, it is not hard to see that the world historiography possesses a vast and manifold body of material on the problem of prisoners-of-war in the Second World War. Foreign researchers pay increasingly more attention to the national breakdown of prisoners of war, including Kazakhs. At the same time, there is an ongoing process of research of this problem in the former republics of the Soviet Union, now – independent states. From the methodological point of view, European historiography, while condemning actions of Fascists towards Soviet prisoners of war, also takes a disapproving stance with regard to the policies of the USSR. Russian and Kazakh historiography strives to abandon old clichés and approaches in the light of research of previously classified sources. In our opinion, researching the problem of prisoners of war historians should beware of the possibility of rousing hatred and desire of vengeance in the new

generations. All research should be conducted for the purpose of avoiding such tragic pages of history in the future.

The year of the 70th anniversary of the Great Victory is not a hollow echo or just another holiday for us, citizens of Kazakhstan. It is the great radiant celebration of the Victory of the whole nation over the Fascist ideology, the day of tribute to the elder generation which survived in the horrible meat grinder of the war that devoured millions of innocent victims.

Eternal glory to the victors and deep sorrow for the victims of Fascism!

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