



REVIEW

of the dissertation of Galina Tleubekovna Yedgina “Nursultan Nazarbayev: milestones of life and career in the Karaganda region (1960-1979)”

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in specialty 6D020300 - “History”

The dissertation research by Yedgina G.T. is devoted to the actual, but insufficiently studied in Kazakhstan historiography problem.

The relevance of the topic of the thesis does not raise any doubts: during the formation of new independent states, the study of the role of the individual in history is important.

Galina Yedgina's PhD thesis sets out to do two important tasks. Empirically, based on new archival sources, analyse the labor and political activities of Kazakhstan's long-term president Nazarbayev during almost two decades that he spent in the Karaganda region. Theoretically, the thesis aims to contribute to the philosophical question of one person's role in history by doing this through the study of 'personalistics' and to develop the academic field in the history of Kazakhstan.

The relevance of the research topic is justified, the purpose, object, subject of research, the degree of knowledge of the problem are correctly identified.

The scientific novelty of the dissertation research is beyond doubt. A large source research base was used and correctly integrated in the dissertation. A significant range of historiographic sources is given and they are accurately classified.

The dissertation author substantiated the periods of labor activity of the first president N.A. Nazarbayev in the Karaganda region. Extensive research material on the study of the dissertation problem created a full-scale picture of scientific research. Large number of previously unused documentary sources, as well as materials from the periodical press of the period 1960-1979, were introduced into scientific circulation for the first time, which allowed to significantly expand ideas about the life and work of N.A. Nazarbayev in the Karaganda region in 1960-1979, to fill in the gaps in its coverage. This is also included in the scientific novelty of the dissertation.

The thesis is framed with the question of the role of individual actors and politically powerful people in history. The first chapter gives an overview of Soviet and Kazakhstani works in the given field. The next two chapters focus on the analysis of different periods of Nazarbayev's life. Chapter 2 covers the future president's childhood, studies, labour and activities in the Comsomol and the Communist Party in Temirtau.

The third chapter focusses on Nazarbayev's activities and achievements as the Party secretary in the Metallurgical Combine and then in the Karaganda regional Committee during the seventies. While the work has set out to cover an important topic and do this



approaching the question of a person's role in history from an ambitious angle, there are certain shortcomings to the thesis that could be improved.

The main outcomes and conclusions of the dissertation can be used in scientific research on the modern history of Kazakhstan, the history of the Kazakh SSR, in the creation of textbooks, in scientific and educational work, in the preparation of monographs, in the development of special courses on the history of the development of Central Kazakhstan and are in demand in the educational process at the humanities departments.

The outcomes and conclusions of the dissertation work are reliable, since they are based on a sufficient number of scientific sources, the use of which allows to reveal the topic under study in full.

Based on the mentioned above, this dissertation can be considered logically substantiated, independent, completed research with applied significance. Doctoral student Yedgina G. T. implemented the tasks of the dissertation research. The author carried out a research and analytical work, as a result of which independent conclusions were drawn.

The list of published works on the research topic, testing of the main outcomes of the work at conferences suggests that the author has acquired certain skills in presenting the results of his research work. In general, it can be concluded that the dissertation work of G.T. Yedgina is a completed dissertation research, meets the requirements for dissertation works, and its author deserves the conferment of a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in specialty 6D020300 - History.

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