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MYTHS OF INTERETHNIC RELATIONS

Аңдатпа. Мақалада БАҚ және әлеуметтік желілердің қазақстандық қоғамдағы этносаралық қатынастар мәселелеріне әсері қарастырылады. Зерттеудің мақсаты этностардың ортақ құндылықтары мен азаматтық позициясы арқылы ашылды. Осы жұмыста ҚЭЗИ зерттеулерінің нәтижелері қолданды.

Түйін сөздер: этносаралық қатынастар, құндылықтар, бірегейлік.

Abstract. The article puts forward the idea influence of the media and social networks on the actualization of issues of interethnic relations in Kazakhstani society. The object of the study were been revealed through the common values and civic position of ethnic groups. In this work, we used the results of IAER studies.

Key words: interethnic relations, values, identity.

Аннотация. В статье рассматривается влияние СМИ и социальных сетей на актуализацию вопросов межэтнических отношений в казахстанском обществе. Цель исследования раскрывается через общие ценности и гражданскую позицию этносов. В данной работе использовались результаты исследований ИПЭИ.

Ключевые слова: межэтнические отношения, ценности, идентичность.

The sphere of interethnic relations is one of the most discussed topics in Kazakh society. Today, critical opinions on a sensitive topic are heard on the pages of the media and social networks, including the effectiveness of the ethnic policy and mechanisms. However, the results of studies by the Institute of Applied Ethnopolitical Research



(IAER) show that despite the ethnocultural diversity, the ethnic groups of Kazakhstan share identical values. According to the results of the study «Inter-ethnic relations in the context of value orientations» {1} the basic values for Kazakhstanis are family (51.6%), friendship (30.0%), material support (29.1%), interesting work (20.3%), freedom and independence (18.7%).

Proximity, openness and tolerant attitude prove the existence of interethnic harmony and proximity in the country. The majority of respondents - representatives of the titular ethnic group are ready to accept representatives of other ethnic groups living in the territory of Kazakhstan as close relatives (spouses), friends, neighbors, work colleagues. In turn, representatives of ethnic groups living in the country also do not have a negative perception and remoteness towards the Kazakhs.

The survey results show that citizens know their rights and can defend them, and this evident in recent times. The results of the in-depth interviews and the mass survey confirm that the majority of informants did not experience discrimination and their rights were not violated on the basis of ethnicity. Also, the tolerant, friendly attitude of Kazakhstanis to each other was emphasized. It is noted that such violations are inadmissible due to the fact that the population realizes the value of interethnic stability in the country.

All ethnic groups in Kazakhstan give a positive ratings of their standard of living. The highest positive assessment “quite satisfied with life” was most often chosen by Tajiks (65.7%), Kazakhs (59.7%) and Uzbeks (51.3%). The less positive assessment “rather satisfied with life in Kazakhstan” was most often chosen by Uighurs (62.3%), Kurds (59%) and Russians (49.7%) {2}.

Kazakhstanis are ready to different forms of dialogue. The definition by a certain level of their trust in scientists and doctors, as well as public institutions to strengthen social cohesion and unity, including the APK (the sum of positive answers is 77.4%).

It is important to note that the issues of the interethnic sphere are not indicated among the urgent problems of the population. According to the results of quarterly studies, the main problems of the population are of a socio-economic nature. The leading positions are occupied by rising prices, tariffs, inflation (48.4%) and low wages (45.2%). No less relevant are housing problems (37.4%), as well as unemployment (37.3%). Corruption (27.6%) complements the top five issues of concern to citizens.

As in all multi-ethnic societies, there are issues in Kazakh society that often go into the inter-ethnic plane. To date, the interethnic sphere has been updated and has become a tool of manipulation due to the large flow of information, which often does not reflect the real picture.

Monitoring exits and the results of the sociological study «Local field research (anthropological expeditions) among ethnic groups» (2021) {3}, implemented by IAER, show that all ethnic groups of Kazakhstan have their own history, which directly influenced their current situation. For some ethnic groups, their place of residence is perceived as a historical land, for others - a place of deportation. All groups perceive their place of



residence differently, while the opinions of representatives of ethnic groups agree on one thing - for all, Kazakhstan is a common home. Ethnic groups show their belonging to the Kazakh society in different ways: some accept the Kazakh culture and assimilate with it, others try to preserve their own identity, finding meaning in the preservation and revival of their ethnic culture.

Thus, the discourse created in the public field about the relevance of interethnic issues in the emergence of conflicts can be considered a consequence and a tool of manipulation that is used by individual groups or individuals. At the same time, throughout the history of sovereign Kazakhstan, interethnic policy has been built on the basis of deep mutual respect, creating conditions for the preservation and development of the cultures of all ethnic groups living in the country.

List of sources:

1. "Interethnic relations in the context of value orientations", Nur-Sultan: IAER, 2021.
2. Analytical report "State policy in the field of strengthening Kazakhstani identity", Nur-Sultan: IAER, 2020.
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