



Armenian Migrations to South Caucasus in the first half of XX century

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Abstract

The purpose of the article, concerning the research of scholars from different countries and archival documents of Tsarist Russia, is to show that the Armenians are not the aboriginal population of the South Caucasus. They were moved to the region by various powers to secure their geopolitical interests. The resettlement of Armenians to the South Caucasus took place gradually over the centuries. In the 20-the 30s of the XIX century alone, the Russian Empire, after the well-known events, resettled more than 200 thousand Armenians to the South Caucasus. As a result of the Crimean War and subsequent events, 10 thousand Armenians fled to the specified region. During the 1st Russian Revolution, Armenian terrorist organizations, with the support of the Russians, settled numerous Armenian emigrants in the region. As seen from the title of the article, it turns out that comparative-historical, data analysis, historical-descriptive methods have been used here to reveal the essence of the study. The Historical-comparative method is the leading one in the formation of this article, as it is inevitable.

Keywords: South Caucasus, deportation, Armenian migrations, repatriation, migrant, refugee, terror, massacre

Received Date: 20/01/2021

Accepted Date: 20/10/2021

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You can refer to this article as follows:

Mammadov, Shamkhal. ‘‘ Armenian Migrations to South Caucasus in the first half of XX century.’’ *Academic Journal of History and Idea*, 8-4, 2021, pp.2061-2076.

XX. Yüzyılın ilk Yarısında Güney Kafkasya'ya Ermeni Göçleri

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Öz

Farklı ülkelerden bilim adamlarının araştırmalarına ve Çarlık Rusya'sının arşiv belgelerine atıfta bulunan makalenin amacı, Ermenilerin Güney Kafkasya'nın yerli halkı olmadığını göstermektir. Jeopolitik çıkarlarını güvence altına almak için çeşitli güçler tarafından bölgeye taşındılar. Ermenilerin Güney Kafkasya'ya yeniden yerleştirilmesi yüzyıllar boyunca kademeli olarak gerçekleşti. Sadece XIX yüzyılın 20-30'larında Rus İmparatorluğu, bilinen olaylardan sonra 200 binden fazla Ermeniye Güney Kafkasya'ya yerleştirdi. Kırım Savaşı ve sonrasındaki olaylar sonucunda 10 bin Ermeni belirtilen bölgeye kaçtı. 1. Rus Devrimi sırasında Ermeni terör örgütleri Rusların desteğiyle bölgeye çok sayıda Ermeni göçmen yerleştirdi. Makalenin başlığından da anlaşılacağı üzere çalışmanın özünü ortaya çıkarmak için karşılaştırmalı-tarihsel, veri analizi, tarihsel-betimleyici yöntemlerin kullanıldığı ortaya çıkmaktadır. Tarihsel karşılaştırmalı yöntem, kaçınılmaz olduğu için bu makalenin oluşumunda başı çekmektedir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Güney Kafkasya, tehcir, Ermeni göçleri, geri dönüş, göçmen, mülteci, terör, katliam

Gönderme Tarihi: 20/01/2021

Kabul Tarihi:20/10/2021

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Bu makaleyi şu şekilde kaynak gösterebilirsiniz:

Mammadov, Shamkhal. ‘‘ Armenian Migrations to South Caucasus in the first half of XX century.’’*Akademik Tarih ve Düşünce Dergisi*, 8-4, 2021, ss.2061-2076.

Миграция армян на Южный Кавказ в первой половине XX века

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Резюме

Цель статьи, со ссылкой на исследования ученых разных стран и архивные документы царской России, показать, что армяне не являются аборигенным населением Южного Кавказа. Они были перемещены в регион различными державами для обеспечения своих геополитических интересов. Переселение армян на Южный Кавказ происходило постепенно на протяжении веков. Только в 20-30-х годах XIX века Российская империя после известных событий переселила на Южный Кавказ более 200 тысяч армян. В результате Крымской войны и последующих событий 10 тысяч армян бежали в указанный регион. Во время I русской революции армянские террористические организации при поддержке русских разместили в регионе многочисленные армянские эмигранты. Как видно из названия статьи, оказывается, что здесь использовались сравнительно-исторический, анализ данных, историко-описательные методы, чтобы раскрыть суть исследования. Историко-сравнительный метод является ведущим при формировании данной статьи, так как это неизбежно.

Ключевые слова: Южный Кавказ, депортация, армянские миграции, репатриация, мигрант, беженец, террор, резня

Получено: 20/01/2021

Принято: 20/10/2021

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Ссылка на статью:

Mammadov, Shamkhal. "Armenian Migrations to South Caucasus in the first half of XX century." *академическая история и мысль*, 8-4, 2021, ss.2061-2076.

Introduction

While rendering attention to the dynamics, content and form of Armenian migrations to South Caucasus, it is possible to divide migrations lasting for centuries into 3 spells conventionally;

1. Approximately, 1500 year period until the Russian occupation: For these many centuries, the Armenians were the migrants who came creeping unnoticeably in the form of a single family or small groups and sheltered under the mercy of local rulers and local people. They settled in the cities where significant trade ways crossed or on the lands of local rulers.

2. About 100-120 year period when the Russian Empire occupied South Caucasus and kept it under its colonial reign: Relatively in a shorter time-lapse, about a million Armenians were moved and placed in the region in organized form from Iran and Turkey by the tsarist government in the context of the geopolitical interests of ruling circles of empire. Armenian population with any kind of auspices and support of the tsarist regime could almost settle wherever they like.

3. Nearly 80-90 year period covering XX century: In the first 20 year intersection of this stage, the Armenians already came and settled in the region freely without feeling a need for support and invitation. In this affair, Armenian terror organizations which were already noticed as power and sometime later Armenian gang-leaders played an important role. In the later 60-70 year period, the migration and settlement process of the Armenians in the territories of local people in the state level by the Soviet regime continued to pursue the policy of tsarist government in national issues. In this regard, the indigenous population of the region underwent deportations, terrors and massacres. In the article, Armenian migrations are researched namely in the XX century.

1-Main part

In the early XX century, the next massive flows of the Armenians to the South Caucasus were related to the occurrences happening in Turkey in that period. As a matter of fact, towards

the end of the XIX century, a range of revolts, rebellions and armed clashes committed by the Armenian terrorist organizations actively donated and armed by the West and Russia spread the Eastern Anatolia. According to approximate calculations, “It is possible to deal with 38 rebellions and incidents committed by the Armenian terrorist organizations between the years of 1882-1904. About 31 out of them (Sassoun I rebellion-1894, Sassoun II rebellion-1897, the Olive rebellion-1895 and others) and Armenian revolts covered large scale rebellions”.¹

As a result of drastic measures taken by the state of Turkey, the Armenian terrorists and their numerous adherents who didn't reach their aims and couldn't get the overt support that they expected from their protectors absconded from justice court and fled to the lands of their supporter, the Russian Empire—to South Caucasus. An alive witness of the happenings, one of the ideologists N. Shavrov wrote: “Duke Qolits's efforts to banish them from the country led to nothing, the Turks didn't accept them, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs didn't demonstrate sufficient resolution. Consequently, the Armenians were notified that the ones who didn't accept Russian citizenship would be expelled obligatorily. Of course, all the Armenians accepted Russian citizenship and mixed with Armenian population”.² In their faces, more inspired Armenians composed of mainly terrorist and criminal members crossed the poorly-protected Russian-Ottoman borders and settled in Kars province and different regions of South Caucasus in the further years. Georgian scholars Shota and Otar Tetvadzers wrote in their books called “The Armenians in Georgia” as a result of tragic incidents committed by Armenian terrorists in the Ottoman Empire in 1897-1902: “55.000 Armenians escaped and settled in Georgia. They mainly took refuge in Smaskhe-Javakhetia, Tbilisi, Batumi, Gory and other regions. Only in 1897-1910, the number of Armenian population in Tbilisi increased from 46,7 thousand and reached 124,9 thousand and about 68,000 out of them were newcomers (mainly from Turkey).³

In the early XX century, at the base of ongoing common hostility of Russia and Western states against the Ottoman Empire, Dashnaksutyun committees provided with arms and money by England attempted to incite Russia in confrontation with Turkey again and to raise rebellions

¹ Azmi Süslü, Fahrettin Kırzioğlu, Refet Yinanç, Yusif Halacoğlu, *Türk tarihinde ermeniler (Temel kitap)*, Levent Ofset Matbaacılık ve Yayıncılık, Ankara 1995, p. 151.

² Nikolay Shavrov, *Novaya ugroza russkomu delu v Zakavkaze: predstoyashya rasprodaja Mugani inorodcam*, SPb., 1911, s.64.

³ Shota Tetvadze, Otar Tetvadze, *Armyane v Gruzii (s drevnix vremen do sevodnyashevo dnya)*, Tbilisi 2008, p. 56-60.

and revolts in the Ottoman Empire. From this viewpoint, it becomes obvious from the news through ciphered telegrams sent by Averyanov, the secretary of the consul general of Russia in Erzurum, the Armenians play an indispensable role in the aggravation of the relations between the Russians and the Turks. “The Armenians who are the citizens of Russia inform our Armenians (the citizens of Turkey) the Russian troops will soon capture Erzurum province”.⁴ “Our Armenians convince the Russian Armenians that everything is ready for war by our side, the Russians must hurry to occupy Erzurum province before Hamidiyya regiments gather together”.⁵

Averyanov, as well as, the headquarters general of Caucasus military circle wrote in the report dated 20 March 1903 addressed to Y.F.Shkinsky: “According to information that I got from a reliable source, at the beginning of March there was an armed clash between the Armenians and the governmental forces in Tbilisi. Tbilisi Armenians made a mess to make Russia wage a war against Turkey soon. The Russian officers in boundary posts talk to each other that prominent Armenian officials who are Russian citizens and the members of the Armenian committee will urge the Russian government to commence sudden military operations against Turkey. There is such a strong belief between us and Russian Armenians that Russian troops will cross the border after the Armenian militia”.⁶

It is necessary to note that despite religious-political leaders’ all desires and all the attempts of the terrorist Armenian organizations’ Russian ruling circles moved sagely this time and did not succumb to the Armenians’ gamble. The Armenian terrorists who couldn’t get the Russians’ overt military support did not take a venture for massive rebellions. On one hand, the oppression over the Armenians by the Imperial Power bodies in those periods, on the other hand, the Tsarist regime’s evasion from the war with Turkey brought about the Armenian political-clerical circles’ anger. Prosecuting attorney for Echmiadzin church A. Frenkel wrote in the reference presented to Russian Holy Sinodun: “In the leaflets, the word Turkey was substituted with “Russia”. While the Armenians who were Russian citizens many years ago carried guns and volunteers to Turkey, now Turkey Armenians “Patriots” began to cross the Russian

⁴ Russian State Military-History Archive (RSMHA) f. 1300, pol, 19, works 313, p.498.

⁵ Russian State..... p.499.

⁶ Russian State p.499-500.

borders”.⁷ Thousands of Armenian terrorists who committed bloody terrors, deportations and massacres did not come back anymore and settled in the region and became the thrust-force of Armenian-chauvinistic circles in 1905-1907 in South Caucasus.

During the known incidents in 1905-1907, as a result of Armenian terror which was characteristic with real pogrom and deportation against Azerbaijani Turks, some territories of the region was almost emptied. However, before these incidents, a vast majority of the population were composed of Azerbaijani Turks in historical Azerbaijan lands such as Karabakh, Daralayaz, Zangazur and Zangibasar. The Armenians settled in emptied territories in a massive form.

Dashnak emissaries sent from abroad and Russia started the wave of long-lasting sabotages, slaughters and revolts beginning from 1905 with the support and participation of “local” Armenians who were migrated and placed in Nakhchivan. As a result of that wave, in some remote places of Nakhchivan, as well as, many villages in Daralayaz and Qafan whose population almost consisted of the Azerbaijanis completely, were inhabited with the newcomer Armenians. At that time, the Armenians were placed in strategically important and suitable housing areas from the economic-agricultural viewpoint. The rest of them were distributed.

Expel of Azerbaijani Turks population from their historical lands continued in a covert form even after 1905-1907 happenings. Instead of the expelled Azerbaijanis, new Armenian migrators were inhabited. According to the researcher scientist, A. Mirzabeily’s calculations, “About a half million Armenians moved from Turkey and Iran to the territories of Kars, Irevan and Yelizavetapol where a vast majority of their population consisted of Azerbaijanis”.⁸

N.Shavrov wrote comparing the migration dynamics of the Armenian population placed in South Caucasus in 1896-1908: “In 1896 general-adjutant Sheremetyev, in his notes addresses to the tsar, showed that the Armenians living in South Caucasus constitute nearly 900,000. And in 1908 their number reached 1,300,000. That is to say, their number increased at least 400,000 in

⁷ Spravka prokurora Ecmiadzinskovo Sinoda A.Frenkelya predstavlenyya v 1907 q. Svyateysemu Sinodu //Izvestiya AN Azerbaydjanskovo SSR Seriya istorii, filosofii i prava, 1989, №2, s.147.

⁸ Aydın Mirzabayli, *The Knot of Kharabakh*, Baku 2012, p.11.

these years. If we do not take natural reproduction into account, it becomes obvious that we have settled more than 300,000 Armenians in 13 years”.⁹

N.Shavrov, in his book titled “New threat for Russian affair in Transcaucasia” published in St. Petersburg in 1911, came to such a conclusion analyzing the facts related to the Armenians’ migration and settlement to South Caucasus profoundly and comprehensively: “Thanks to this wise policy, more than a million of Armenians out of 1,300,000 living in this territory are not local people. We have settled them”.¹⁰

Powers which became enemy to the local people of the Caucasus – as a result of joint efforts of imperial ruling circles, officials of Armenian origin, terror gangs, the Armenian population of the region increased at an unprecedented speed.

Beginning from that period, both the pressing need for manpower as a result of the rapid development of industry in Baku and in other cities of Azerbaijan and a result of deliberate Armenianizing policy of ruling circles, the number of the Armenians increased swiftly in the region. Simultaneously, Armenian bourgeoisie having ample economic-financial opportunities possessed ruling positions in oil industry of Baku and in other industrial-trade and service fields. Consequently, the Armenians migrated to South Caucasus, particularly to industrial-trade centers as Baku, Tbilisi, Batum, Gandja, are patronized immediately and provided with the job. They were also agitated as the other Armenians.

Of course, not all of the Armenians arrived in the region could settle here as a result of migrations. The ones who couldn’t find lodgings and jobs entered Russian army units or migrated to North Caucasus and Central Russia. South Caucasus played the role of the trampoline for greedy Armenian migrants come from Front Asia to spread in other regions.

During World War I and in the next first years, in the course of tragic incidences happening in South Caucasus and Near East, the Armenians’ next migration flow commenced. The Armenians who committed massive slaughters against Muslim-Turks in Turkey, Caucasus and Iran, betrayal which brought about the military defeat of the Ottoman Empire with the direct incitement and comprehensive support of Russia and states of Antanta, scattered near and distant

⁹ Nikolay Shavrov, *Novaya ugroza russkomu delu v Zakavkaze: predstoyashya rasprodaja Mugani inorodcam*, SPb., 1911, p. 64.

¹⁰ N. Shavrov, *Ibid.*, p. 64.

countries for the fear of Justice court. For example, in summer of 1915, while Russian troops were occupying Van, the Armenians in military units of the Russian army, as well as other armed Armenian gangs joined them from surrounding provinces, cut the vast proportion of local people with the sword and displaced the rest. In the mid of July Russian troops left Van as a result of counter-attack of the Turkish army. Armenian author Hovanesyan wrote: “More than 200,000 Armenians fled to South Caucasus together with Russian army”.¹¹ Archive documents prove this. For example, TSFSR permanent commission for refugees’ issues under Union Council, showed in the explanation note dispatched to Union Council in December of 1922: “Refugees came to South Caucasus in August for the first time after the battles in Turkey front in June of 1915, about 250,000 Armenians settled in South Caucasus and later in the central part of Russia brought numerous challenges with them. Tsarist government allocated 2,000,200 gold coins from the clerk-office of the Caucasus viceroy in 1916 to place the refugees. This time 320,000 refugees gathered together in South Caucasus. 15,000 in Georgia, 15,000 in Azerbaijan, 150,000 in North Caucasus and 110,000 in Armenia and the rest were in other places”.¹²

As obvious, the Armenians who inflicted serious military-political damage to the Ottoman Empire in war years with their terrorist and treacherous actions, the decree issued about the migration of the Armenians from some fighting areas to Mesopotamia was not executed necessarily. The government, which did not have sufficient financial resources whose armed forces waged hard defense combat in frontlines, could not take control over migrations enough. For this reason, some portions of migrated people directed to other regions. In the account rendered to research commission of Lozanna by Armenian member Gabriel Noradunkyan it is noted that “During the migrations, 345,000 Armenians went to South Caucasus”.¹³

“During the Versailles peace conference, according to the committee for Refugees’ Affairs of Nations Society, generally in the course of the World War I and as a result of happenings after it, 400-420 thousand Armenians migrated to Russia”.¹⁴ Of course, there were no lodgings and facilities for the settlement of so many migrators in the region. Therefore, Armenian

¹¹ Kamuran Gurgun, *Armyanskoe dosye*, Yazici, Baku 1993, p. 268.

¹² Georgian Central Most Recent History Archive (GCMRA) f. 612, pol, 1, Geo.27, p.1-3.

¹³ Cemalettin Taşkiran, *Ermeni Diasporası Nedir? Ne İstiyor?/ Ermeni araştırmaları I Türkiye Kongresi bildirileri* C. III, ASAM-EREN, Ankara 2003, p.5.

¹⁴ K. Gurgun, *Ibid.*, p. 139.

political-clerical circles made a decision to decrease the local population by means of massacre and deportations to solve the problem.

In 1918-1920, Dashnak generals who built their fictitious state in South Caucasus with the support of external powers, as well as, Bolshevik Russia banished hundred thousands of Azerbaijanis from their historical lands to Zangibasar, Nakhchivan, Zangazur, Daralayaz and other places by means of massive terrors and deportations and they placed new collections of Armenians instead of them. In those years, dashnak generals who were distinguished with their brutalities in the territories of Iran and Turkey took an active part in slaughter actions against the pacific population of South Caucasus, in their deportations and in Armenianization of the areas. For example, while general Andronik Ozanyan going back from Turkey to South Caucasus in 1918, more than 30,000 Armenians mainly from Mush and Bitlis came with him and settled in Zangazur areas. Some parts of them remained in Zangazur, while most of them moved to Irevan and Daralayaz. They settled on the lands of expelled Muslims with the participation of Andronik's gangs. The purpose was to form the ethnical supporting region which was about to be established.

During World War I, massive migrations of the Armenians to South Caucasus did not pass by Georgia as well. When the Georgian Democratic Republic was established, there were about 300,000 refugees inside it and more than half of them were the Armenians. A large proportion of those refugees settled in Khaketiya, Tbilisi and surrounding provincial centers and villages".¹⁵

Cleansing the region from Turkish-Muslim ethnos, complete Christianization was the main duty of South Caucasus policy of Temporary and further Soviet governments after the fall of the tsarist regime. The Armenians tried to take maximum advantage of this. After the Sovietization of South Caucasus, on the eve and trend of Lozanna conference, as a result of grappling of G.Chicher and M.Litvinov and high ranked officials like them, as well as Transcaucasia Federation CPC, too many Armenians were migrated to the region. Department of Central Migration established by Commissariat of Armenian People's Internal Affairs was engaged in the migration of the Armenians living abroad to the USSR in 1921-1923. "9.162

¹⁵ S. Tetvadze, Otar Tetvadze, *Ibid.*, p. 95.

Armenians were brought to Armenia in 1922 by the department. They were migrated from Mesopotamia, Iran and Russia. 2.757 Armenians were settled in the country. 140 homes were built for the Armenians who came from Mesopotamia and they were given money, food and other aids”.¹⁶

In 1923 the Armenian refugees’ next and much stronger flow to Armenia started. The same year “ The Armenians were settled being 38,500 in Irevan province, 33,400 in Echmiadzin province, 28,000 in Leninakan province, 8,100 in New Beyazid province, 7,600 in Lory Pambak province, 5,000 in Black church province, 1,400 in Daralayaz province, 4,500 in Dilijan province. On the whole 126,000 Armenians were brought to Armenia”.¹⁷ Newcomers were not only settled in the houses belonging to the Azerbaijanis, but also in Azerbaijan. For example, “More than 8,000 Armenians only brought from Mosul city in 1922-1923 were settled in different regions of Azerbaijan SSR”.¹⁸

The Armenian government backed up by the Soviet leaders rendering so much attention to bringing the Armenians to the SSR, spending too much money, hampered the displaced Azerbaijanis to come back to their native homelands. Let alone, the Azerbaijanis who fled from Armenia were not allowed to settle in Azerbaijan territories. For example, “At the meeting of the private authorized commission of Azerbaijan PCS on May 22, 1923, an issue about the settlement of Azerbaijani refugees from Irevan in Nij village of Nukha province was discussed and an appropriate decision was accepted about it. However, the Armenians living in the village objected to the settlement of Azerbaijani refugees in the same village. Therefore, according to the decision accepted, the Azerbaijanis were taken out from 300 houses. And the Armenians brought from the neighboring villages were settled in 80 houses which they quit”.¹⁹ As in the period of Empire, in the spell of the Soviet Union, the Armenians’ coming to South Caucasus did not halt, either. For different reasons, in the aftermath of migration processes which either weakens or speeds up, Armenian migrations to South Caucasus continued in later years as well. In 1925, 508 Armenians

¹⁶ Georgian Central Most Recent History Archive (GCMRA) f. 617, pol, 1, Geo.506, p.277-282.

¹⁷ Georgian Central,p.277-282

¹⁸ Musa Gasimli, *The Armenians’ claims from Sovietization of Armenia until the occupation of Azerbaijan territories: history as it is (1920-1994)*, Science Development Fund under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku 2016, p.184.

¹⁹ M. Gasimli, *Ibid.*, p.184.

from Istanbul, 460 Armenians were brought from Greece”.²⁰ After the occupation of Georgia by Russia, Georgian internationalists S.Orjonikidze and F.Makharadze placed the refugees in Batumi, Qaqra, Sukhumi and Akhalsikh. Only in May of 1923, 642 Armenian refugees were settled in Abkhazia.²¹ In 1928, 165 Armenian families were settled in Akhalkhalaki”.²²

“Along with the Center, Transcaucasia Federation which was mainly composed of the Armenians and the Georgians had a particular role in the settlement of the Armenians in South Caucasus come from abroad. At the meeting held on May 19, 1925, by Minor Presidium of Transcaucasia CEC (protocol № 12) a decision was accepted about the settlement of a group of Armenians brought from abroad in Nakhchivan”.²³ So, the Center’s Armenian-loving and anti-Azerbaijani policy and as a result of nationalist-chauvinistic behaviors of Armenian Communist leadership, the Armenians were brought from abroad and settled in any territory of the South Caucasus while the Azerbaijanis could not settle on their own legal lands. As a result of joint efforts of the Armenian political elite with communist leaders of the USSR, the Armenianization of Armenia was not a secret to anybody. The Armenians even confessed it themselves. While the number of the Armenians constituted 700,000 in 1920, on the eve of war, as a result of their migration from abroad their number reached 1,3-1,5 million in Armenia SSR.

Armenian leadership did not suffice only by massive migration of the Armenians to the region taking advantage of the auspices of Soviet leaders. They could snatch a great number of funds from the budget of the Union for the settlement of the refugees. “The Armenian government demanded 1,462,202 roubles to settle 10,000 Armenians considered to be brought from Armenia and 4,554,490 roubles to place 35,000 landless peasants inside the country”.²⁴ The center being the captive of its geopolitical aims in the South Caucasus carried out the same demands in most cases. In league with Stalin’s lover leadership and Armenian-dashnak leadership, one of the biggest Armenian migrations to the South Caucasus in history was realized in the forties of the last century. “In 1946, 50,900 Armenians were brought from Syria, Greece, Lebanon, Iran, Bulgaria and Romania to Soviet Armenia. With the new caravans of repatriated ones in 1947, totally 35,000 Armenians came from Palestine, Syria, France, the USA, Greece,

²⁰ Georgian Central....., p. 277-282.

²¹ S. Tetvadze, *Ibid.*, p.109.

²² S. Tetvadze, *Ibid.*, p.109.

²³ Georgian Central Most Recent History Archive (GCMRA) f. 607, pol, 1, Geo.327, p.12.

²⁴ Georgian Central Most Recent History Archive (GCMRA) f. 617, pol, 1, Geo.506, p. 226.

Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon. In 1948 one more 10,000 Armenians came back from Syria, Lebanon, France, the USA, Egypt, Bulgaria and Romania. Hence, approximately 100,000 Armenians came back from different countries to the “motherland” in 1946-1948”.²⁵

²⁵ Sarkisyan, Akopyan, Abramyan, *Istoriya armyanskovo naroda s drevneyshix vremen do nashix dney*, İzdvo Erevanskoqo unta, Erevan 1980, p. 460.

Conclusion

As seen, the most intensive period of migrations is in 1946-1947. Despite the attempts of Armenian leaders and numerous contributions of Armenian diaspora groups abroad, a mass with 100,000 was too hard to be accepted and settled. Failures of territory claims against Turkey and Azerbaijan made the situation complicated. The leadership of Armenia SSR took advantage of the known hardships very artfully. Consequently, the continuation of the project came out. Making, the hardship of the Armenians' settlement come from abroad, excuses, secretary general of Armenian CP CC Q. Arutyunov saw "the way out from the situation" in migration of 100,000 people from Armenian to Azerbaijan. The leadership of the Republic of Armenia including clergymen, as well as, with the initiative and organization of A. Mikoyan and others who held high posts in the supreme party and Soviet organs in those periods, the deportation of the Azerbaijanis from their historical lands in the territories of Western Azerbaijan became an agenda. In May 1947, International Pan-Armenian Congress was held in New York. One of the main issues of the congress on the agenda was the organization of the affair of the migration of the Armenians living abroad to Soviet Armenia. In the same year, the XIV congress of the party "Dashnaksutyun" held in the capital of Egypt, Cairo from September 16 to October 26, adopted 6 itemed directives about the migration of the Armenians living in foreign countries to the USSR. In the directives, the duties set forth became an activity program for Armenian leaders and clergymen in the USSR. In such a circumstance, on December 23, 1947, the Ministers' Soviet of the USSR adopted a decision no 4083 about "The migration of collective farmers and other Azerbaijani Turks population from Armenia SSR to Kur-Aras lowland of Azerbaijan SSR".²⁶ The Bill of the decision signed by the chairman of Ministers' Council of the USSR, I.V.Stalin and the director Ministers' Council Affairs, Y. Chadayev was prepared by A.Mikoyan. It is possible to say without going into details, the Armenian repatriation and the deportation of the Azerbaijanis implemented by the assistance of Stalin lover leadership in 1946-1948 occurred nearly at the same time. They were the processes complementing each other.

Hence, from the early medieval centuries, the Armenian migrations started in the territories of South Caucasus resulted in their massive settlement here because of geo-political

²⁶ *Crimes of Armenian terrorist and Gang units against mankind, XIX-XXI cc, Baku 2003, p.144.*

interests and colonialist purposes of the Russian Empire in XIX cc. During the XIX century, firstly with tsarist regime's then with Soviet political leaders' auspices and direct support, as a result of the policy of hundred thousands of Armenians' migration from foreign countries, the Armenians flowing to South Caucasus became one of the leading ethnoses here, established their fake state at the level of fore post and changed the region into the center of ethnic hostilities, national confrontations and armed conflicts which seemed insoluble.

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