

A view from the past

Contradictory and versatile history of people from Western Siberia and Altay region, which has become the center of Eurasia, lasts for many years. Sources of these regions' history come from the Stone Age. With the help of conscious labor, people made transition to developed Bronze Age. From II thousand years B.C. up to the period of Russian colonization in the 15th century, this area had been settled by people Andronov culture, Saka, Wusun and Huns, they had been leading a nomadic life and had been engaged in cattle rising.

During the next stage, people who called themselves Turks resided in this territory. Consequently people of Altay origin started to settle all over Eurasia, they were developing and flourishing. On the basis of common traditions, language and mutual understanding they founded a national union.

On the basis of Mongols' and Turks' union in Altay, names with Turkic symbols and language have been extant till our days.

If we take a closer look at contradictory history of Altay, we can divide the history of this region's nation into several stages. At the initial stage, at the Stone Age of the 2nd millennium B.C., in spite of hardships of nature, ancient people were gradually developing, moving further step by step. At this stage they settled all over the territory of Altay and learned to cope with hardships of nature. At first they were involved in gathering, later they started to catch wild animals and tame them; also they invented different tackles, tools and kitchen utensils. In the end of the Stone Age Altay people started to make tools of stone and settle in mountainous parts of the area...

In the period of the Bronze Age, Altay people were adequately engaged in metal working. According to historical data, people of Andronov culture mastered metal mining and fabrication of metal products. They had special furnaces and workshops for alloying metals. According to some information, they even surpassed Chinese people in bronze.

As a result of close relations, they developed their own traditions and cooperation, as well as a common language of communication; in a social sphere there were developed family and tribal unions.

Written evidences of history of people from Altay and Eurasia appeared as well. In the basis of those data were put documents in Greek and Persian languages.

Ancient dwellers of the Eurasian gorge with its center in Rudny Altay, we closely connected to Huns. For several centuries Huns had predominated in the territories from Black Sea to Chinese borders. In the end of 1st millennium B.C., Saka, Wusun, Kangly and other tribes got united with Huns. As a result of unification, a

strong and big steppe Empire was founded. According to historical data, Bumyn, who came from the main tribe “Alshyn”, created foundations of Khaganate. In the beginning of the 6th century he founded a cohesive confederation of nomadic Turks.

The past of the Turks was narrated in Orkhon-Yenisey notes in manuscripts which had been left by chief of the tribe. V.Bartold wrote, that those manuscripts appeared in the 6th century and belonged to people, who used to call themselves Turks and who had conquered all steppes from China to Persia and Byzantium. The next stage of Altay history is associated with entry into Genghis Khan Empire.

For several centuries Turkic and Mongolian tribes had been building up the economy side by side. At the time, Mongolians ruled over the territory, still Turkic traditions kept developing. Turkic language dominated, new nations and nationalities were appearing in the confederation and after some time, termination of the Mongolian rule took place.

Thus, starting from the 2nd century B.C, up to the 6th century A.D. tribes of Western Siberia and Altay had been represented by nomadic Turks, also had been dominated and developed.

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