

Amitov S., Amantaeva D.,
Saribaeva I.

**Social well-being as an indicator
of the level of adaptation of
ethnic repatriates**

In this article we can see problems of adaptation and integration of ethnic immigrants in modern Kazakh society. The object of study in this article is social feeling as an indicator, that measure level and success of ethnic immigrants entering to the new socio-cultural area of Kazakh society, the subject of this article is adaptation of ethnic immigrants. The understanding of Social feeling is like an important subjective human evaluation, which characterizes the degree of satisfaction of his needs and correspondence between social expectations and reality. The level of social feeling measured according to such parameters as evaluation of economic situation of family, evaluation of families' financial conditions, relationships with local population. Here You can see a results of sociological research of ethnic immigrant's social feeling, which acts as indicator of social adaptation's success in modern Kazakh society. The authors provided social feeling as common characteristic, which is difficult to measure with sociological methods. The main difficulty is that this term has emotional, not rational character. By studying the problem and identifying the level of social well-being of ethnic immigrants, we are trying to determine their satisfaction of various sides of life. According our research, social well-being is considered as an integral component of ethnic immigrants' adaptation, as a result and index of the successful social adaptation process in the modern Kazakh society. The dynamics of social well-being is measured by indicators such as the assessment of the economic situation of the family (employment), the assessment of their own financial situation, the source of livelihood, relationships with the local population. We believe that ethnic immigrants' social well-being will be better with successful process of social adaptation to a new social environment. The analysis showed that the level of social well-being increasingly depends on its success, than active adaptation fact. The results show that adaptants' and disadaptants' good social well-being characterized as goodsuccessful adaption. We can show a similar trend by unsuccessful adaptants, when a large share of these two respondent groups feel the new social reality rather bad. Thus, the approach allowed to consider the substantive side of the research according to specific conditions. The results of sociological research, referring to the established facts, allow to objectively examine the problem under study and present the conclusions.

Key words: returnees, repatriates, ethnic immigrants, social health, adaptation.

Амитов С.А., Амантаева Д.,
Сарыбаева И.С.

**Әлеуметтік көңіл-күй
этникалық репатрианттардың
бейімделу деңгейінің
индикаторы ретінде**

Аталған мақалада қазіргі Қазақстан қоғамына этникалық репатрианттардың интеграциясы мен бейімделу мәселелері қарастырылған. Тарихи отанына оралу олардың өмір сүруінің барлық салаларына өзгерістер алып келеді. Жаңа орынға келгеннен кейін, яғни репатриациядан соң, олардың өмірлерінде түпкілікті өзгерістер орын алып, қоғамның ішкі және сыртқы жағдайларына бейімделуі қиынға соғады. Сонымен қатар, кәсіби, материалдық, психологиялық және мәдени қиындықтар да орын алуы мүмкін. Аталған мақаланың зерттеу объектісі болып этникалық репатрианттардың қазақстандық қоғамның жаңа әлеуметтік-мәдени ортасына енуі барысындағы жетістіктері мен өлшем деңгейі әлеуметтік көңіл-күй мәселесі, ал зерттеу пәні этникалық репатрианттардың бейімделуі табылады. Әлеуметтік көңіл-күй әлеуметтік шынайылық пен болжам арасындағы сәйкестік пен оның қажеттіліктерінің қанағаттандырылу дәрежесімен сипатталатын адамның маңызды субъективті бағасымен түсіндіріледі. Әлеуметтік көңіл-күй деңгейі отбасының экономикалық жағдайы, материалдық жағдайды бағалау, жергілікті халықпен қарым-қатынас сияқты параметрлермен өлшенді. Этникалық репатрианттардың қазіргі Қазақстан қоғамына әлеуметтік бейімделуінің жемісті көрсеткіші ретінде әлеуметтік көңіл-күй деңгейін анықтайтын әлеуметтанулық зерттеу нәтижелері берілген. Авторлар, әлеуметтік көңіл-күй мәселесі әлеуметтанулық әдістермен өлшеуге келмейтіндіктен, оған жалпыландырылған сипатта талдау жасаған. Аталған термин бірінші кезекте рационалды емес, эмоционалды сипатқа ие болғандықтан, әлеуметтанулық әдістер арқылы толық зерттеу қиындықтар туғызады.

Түйін сөздер: оралмандар, репатриант, этникалық репатриант, әлеуметтік көңіл-күй, бейімделу.

Амитов С.А., Амантаева Д.,
Сарыбаева И.С.

**Социальное самочувствие
как индикатор уровня
адаптации этнических
репатриантов**

В данной статье рассмотрены проблемы адаптации и интеграции этнических репатриантов в современном казахстанском обществе. Объектом исследования данной статье является социальное самочувствие как индикатор измерения уровня и успешности вхождения этнических репатриантов в новую социокультурную среду казахстанского общества, предметом – адаптация этнических репатриантов. Представлены результаты социологического исследования уровня социального самочувствия этнических репатриантов, который выступает как показатель успешности социальной адаптации в условиях современного казахстанского общества. Здесь авторы представили социальное самочувствие как обобщенную характеристику, достаточно сложно поддающуюся измерению социологическими методами. Результаты исследования показывают, что как для большинства адаптантов, так и дезадаптантов при условии, что они являются успешными, социальное самочувствие характеризуется как хорошее. Подобную тенденцию, только с обратным знаком, можно проследить и для неуспешных адаптантов: большая доля респондентов данных двух групп чувствуют себя в новой социальной действительности скорее плохо.

Ключевые слова: оралманы, репатриант, этнические репатрианты, социальные самочувствие, адаптация.

SOCIAL WELL-BEING AS AN INDICATOR OF THE LEVEL OF ADAPTATION OF ETHNIC REPATRIATES

Introduction

In contemporary social science there is no specific definition of «social health». This concept is defined as objective and subjective characteristics of the individual in scientific literature. In the context of our study the social well-being of ethnic immigrants is understood as the definition by the individual of his socio-economic status and behaviour, the relationship with the external socio-cultural environment, which manifests the assessment of its satisfaction of social needs. From this it is evident that the assessment of social well-being here is defined from the subjective indicators.

Social well-being, by definition, J. T. Toshchenko and S. V. Kharchenko, is presented as «conditions that affect the development of events, significant to the personality and purchasing power in this emotional effect become the feelings, the subject of those phenomena.» It is the source of the social sentiments, as elements such as assessment and self-assessment of social status and social position are manifested in people's perceptions about the possibilities of reaching their desired, preferred ideal. Awareness of barriers and corridors, which forced a person go through the journey of life, and defines «social health», and the mood. This reflects the similarity of the phenomena. However, the notion of «social well-being» covers a wider range of factors that determine or indirectly affect the state and direction of the individual. Although the socio-productive environment and the position of man in it are the leading factors of social well-being, it is impossible not to take into account common preconditions of the existence of certain groups in society. Social optimism, or pessimism of the individual, even safe in private employment, much depends on how its ideals coincide with the direction of social development, how to solve the problems of equality-inequality, social justice, economic security, etc. This fully applies to the person's position in organization [1].

In our view, the analysis of such concepts as «social wellbeing», it is relevant today in social science. Because, by studying the level of social well-being of ethnic immigrants, may act as the indicator of success of social adaptation in the conditions of modern Kazakhstan society. Social well-being is understood as a generalized description, it is difficult measurable sociological methods. A special difficulty

lies in the fact that this term primarily is emotional rather than rational in nature. On the one hand, this concept is interpreted as a characteristic of his physical state and other moral States. This duality in the definition of this concept can be observed in psychology and sociology. It should be noted here that psychology treats health from the physiological standpoint, as an organic being of man and the sociology of health has become a more integral feature of the predetermined social factors. Today this term is widely used to analyze the activity of social actors in modern social science.

Petrova L. E. notes [2] that social well-being is a syndrome of consciousness, reflecting the attitude to the relationship between the level of pretensions (mostly determined content characteristics of life strategy) and the degree of satisfaction of needs of life (satisfaction with life strategy realisation). And it concerns various spheres of life of the subject as professional, educational, family, leisure, communication, etc.

Main body

Studying the problem and identifying the level of social well-being of ethnic immigrants, we try to determine their satisfaction with various aspects of life. In our study, social health is considered as an integral indicator of adaptability of ethnic immigrants, as a result, the success rate of the process of social adaptation in modern Kazakhstan society.

Dynamics of social well-being was measured by such indicators as the economic situation of the family (employment), assessment of own financial situation, source of livelihood, relations with the local population. We believe that more successful process of social adaptation in a new social environment is, social wellbeing of ethnic immigrants would be better.

The most successful of adaptants feels good under modern conditions. In the group of unsuccessful adaptants the majority of respondents is characterized by poor health. These groups (successful and unsuccessful adaptants) were allocated to the study by three indicators:

- the presence of adaptive behaviours in the labour market;
- according to the degree of success or effectiveness of this adaptation process (subjective assessment of their financial position);
- the level of interaction with the local population (sociocultural environment).

The analysis showed that the level of social well-being largely depends on the second ground,

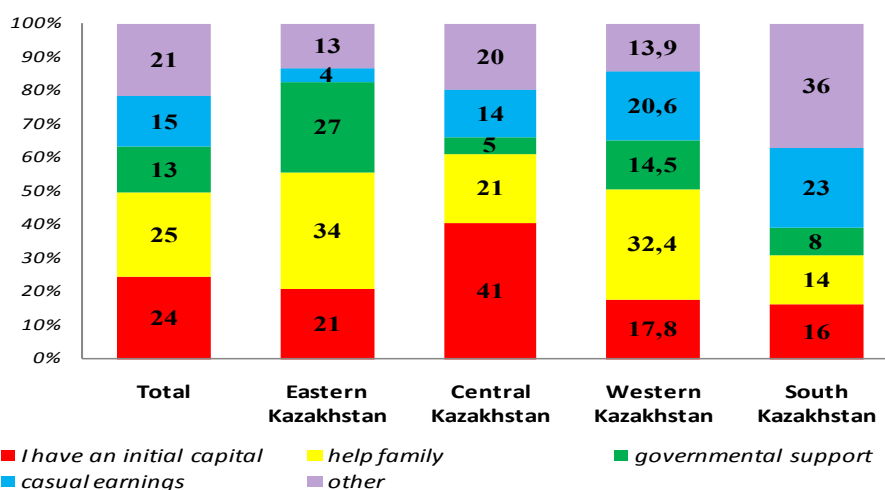
that is, from success than from the fact that there is an active adaptation. The results show that for the majority of successful and unsuccessful adaptants, in the case of they are successful, social health is characterized as good. A similar trend, but with an opposite sign, can be traced to unsuccessful adaptants: a large proportion of respondents of these groups feel the new social reality rather bad.

To do this, let's compare the level of social well-being of ethnic repatriates and subjective self-assessment of material security, which is an indicator of the success of the process of social adaptation. In this case, we do not take into account the real family income of the Respondent. Since, in our opinion, the health of both the internal characteristics depends on the subjective human perception level of their financial position and not on the real amount of income. During the analysis it was important to identify whether ethnic immigrant get money to be happy with their lives or not.

The study also identified the sources and livelihood of unemployed ethnic immigrants. It should be noted that about 40.0 per cent of respondents had initial capital. According to this indicator highlights the returnees in the Central region. In this region constituted 41.0 per cent of respondents had initial capital, which gives them a chance to start their businesses, to successfully adapt to the Kazakh way of life. Family support played the hug role for the unemployed. 25,0% of the respondents rely on the help of relatives. Most of them live on casual earnings, i.e. they have no stable income (15,0%). State support for the unemployed is 13.0%. The highest percentage of covered government support is concentrated in the Eastern region (27,0%). This figure also shows the high quality of the work of state bodies in the region. The low rate of state support have on the Central (5,0%) and South region (8.0 percent).

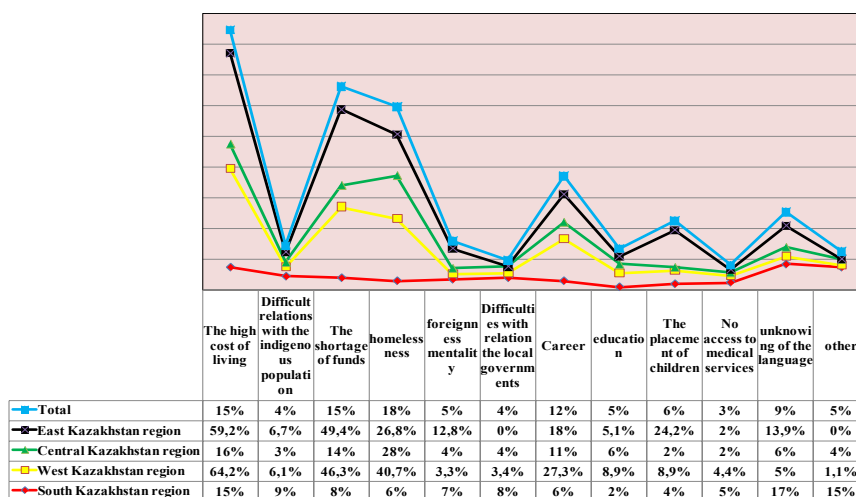
As a result, there is a following tendency: the dependence of the level of well-being from their own material security. Immigrants with high material yield, as a rule, fully are satisfied that, undoubtedly, positively affects the social wellbeing of ethnic immigrants. Unlike more successful in material terms, immigrants with low incomes feel more insecure, which manifests itself in a low level of adaptation to the Kazakhstani society.

Thus, we believe that the degree of success of passing of process of social adaptation and integration of ethnic repatriates to modern Kazakh society has a decisive impact on the social well-being.



Among the problems in the regional context, named by the respondents as relevant, the most important are the following: lack of housing (18,0%), high cost of living (15,0%), lack of funds (15,0%), employment (12,0). The language barrier (17,0%), complicated relations with local authorities (8,0%) are basic in the structure of difficulties of adaptation of migrants of the southern region. The adaptation period is the most difficult to pass for returnees in the Western region. In this region successful adaptation of repatriates is prevented by the following reasons: the high cost of living (64.2 per cent); lack of funds (46.3 per cent); lack of housing (40.7 per cent). Compared with other re-

gions of Kazakhstan in this region these figures are the highest. The high cost of living and lack of funds are important factors of adaptation for immigrants of the Eastern region. Also among the reasons are pointed out the problem with the placement of children (24,2%), employment (18,0%), Language barrier (13,9%), the strangeness to the mentality (of 12.8%). In the Central region in the ranking of difficulties of adaptation of first place is the problem of lack of housing (28,0%), high cost of living (16,0%). Significant role in the process of adaptation of repatriates in the region plays a lack of funds (14,0%), employment (11,0%), language barrier (6.0 percent).



One of the indicators of successful adaptation of ethnic immigrants is their relationship with the local population. 86,0% of respondents satisfied with the relations with the local population. This indicator

is particularly prevalent in the Eastern (82,0%) and Central (79.8 per cent) regions. In these regions we can say that the relationship with the local population is established. In the Western region as

it is possible to say that balanced relations with the local community. But in these regions the problems with the local population are not exhausted. Still more than 3.0% of respondents from these regions noted the negative attitude of the local population. The lowest rate in the southern region (42,0%), but this region is dominated by respondents who answered that relations with the local population is rather positive (33,0%). 19,0 per cent of the returnees in this region feel indifferent, and 5,0% rather negative attitude of local residents.

Socio-cultural adaptation determines the ability to effectively interact with a new cultural environment. That involves the acquisition of social skills relevant to the new social environment, which as a result make it possible to solve socio-cultural problems in everyday life. In other words, it is the quantity and quality of relations with the local population, knowledge of language, legislation and peculiarities of a new culture. Important factors which influence the process of socio-cultural adaptation is the similarities and differences between «native culture» of the immigrant ethnic and «new culture».

As part of the Kazakh Diaspora, ethnic settlers mostly kept certain aspects of the Kazakh culture, traditions and way of life. This situation may contribute to or, conversely, interfere with cultural integration. In this context, two things should be noted: the country of origin and region of settlement. This is evident, for example, the great commitment of national Kazakh culture and traditions are demonstrated in South Kazakhstan, Kyzylorda, Mangistau oblast. In these regions the socio-cultural adaptation of ethnic migrants occurs more easily than in Northern and Central. Integrating the Northern and Central regions ethnic returnees face many challenges. This is due to varied socio-cultural relations. Since Soviet times, the Kazakh culture in these areas were under significant influence of other cultural and ethnic groups. In particular, the prevalence of the Russian language and culture in these regions means that ethnic migrants living there, will need more time to adapt to local conditions. Although ethnic immigrants have the same roots with the Kazakhs, there is a difference in culture and customs. This is because ethnic immigrants has conserved the traditional Kazakh culture and lifestyle, whereas Kazakhs in Kazakhstan have adapted, first, to the effect that occurred during the Soviet period, and recent developments in the transition to a market

economy. Ethnic Kazakhs, especially coming from CIS countries, most of them are more religious than the local Kazakhs.

Many ethnic immigrants, especially from Abroad faced with the language barrier. For immigrants from the CIS the language barrier is a major factor that interferes with successful adaptation. For the older generation and middle-aged people it is harder to overcome the language barrier. Young people, due to age potential, it is easier to learn languages that are considered as functional in Kazakhstan. In this respect, the establishment of six monthly, yearly language courses in accordance with the age of ethnic immigrants would help not only to overcome the language barrier, but also to work, to learn the social and cultural environment of the Kazakhstan society, use the language communication capabilities in dealing with legal problems, etc. on the other hand, Kazakhstan needs to use the language capabilities of ethnic immigrants. They can work as translators of Farsi, Turkish, Chinese language government bodies, large manufacturing, medical, legal organizations, embassies, specialized translation agencies, etc. Especially the translation of scientific works of Kazakhstan scientists into other languages is relevant to our society. And although at first glance the problems are mainly socio-economic in nature, it is impossible not to draw attention to the importance of socio-cultural factors for successful reintegration in conditions of Kazakhstan reality. It should be noted the importance of socio-cultural nature that may be the cause of successful adaptation of repatriates.

Conclusion

Thus, the process of adaptation of ethnic repatriates in modern Kazakhstan society has a complex and contradictory character. This is because it is impossible to determine the level, the degree of success of the process of social adaptation of ethnic repatriates in modern Kazakhstan society. Having the advantage according to some indicators, yieldin other. It should be noted that the model adaptation of one ethnic immigrant will not be a copy of another, because each of them develops its own mechanisms of adaptive strategies. It should be taken into account that the social characteristics of ethnic returnees in accumulated social capital, such as education, training, qualification, income level, health, motive of the decision to repatriate to their historical homeland.

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