

Project efforts, results and aims presented by Mardzhany-Institute and ICATAT presented: Tatar-German-Japanese sources at ICCEES Tokyo, Japan

Yazma-Miras-project-report



The IX. World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES) was held first time in an Asian country from August 3. to 8. 2015 in Japan. At the KANDA-University in Makuhari/Tokyo under the slogan „Where many Wests meet many Easts“ came together more than 1400 scientists from around the globe. As Prof. Mitsuyoshi Numano¹ stated in

his welcome message we met us after so many tremendous vicissitudes that mankind experienced in the monstrous twentieth century peacefully in Japan and - one has to add - also while we have to face in 21. Century wars in Syria, Irak, Ukraine, Jemen, Libya as well as ‘frozen conflict’ around the world. So much the better one has to remark that beside geopolitical clashes nearly 300 academicians from Russian Federation and dozens of Ukrainian scientists arrived in Tokyo in order to discuss the contemporary situation concerning these immense challenges inside and around Europe. But even the problems of today cannot be understood without knowledge of the past. That's why the continual historical research and the participation of historians in interdisciplinary working



Prospect forward the 2nd publication of Yazma Miras
A hearty Thank You to all ICCEES members and collaborators of the organising committee

Excellent accomodation and conference keeping.

groups are so important in order to analyse, discuss and overcome negative stereotypes which are sometimes basing on false history interpretations or ideological instrumentalisation of history policy. In this context the international interdisciplinary project „Yazma Miras. Textual Heritage“ one cannot estimate high enough. The „Yazma miras“ project is combining history, turkology, stereotype research, philology and migration studies with new methods of didactics and modern pedagogical approaches. The project pattern consists of an overhead at the Mardzhany Institute for History at the Academy of Sciences in Kazan (Republic of Tatarstan) as well as different cooperation partners in diverse countries. The involvement of ICATAT Germany based on a cooperation contract, the so

¹ Chair of the Japan Council for Russian and East European Studies; Co-Chair of the ICCEES Organizing Committee, Prof. at the University of Tokyo.

called „Hiddensee protocoll“ of 2011². But not in every country such a institutional cooperation cannot be organise, also single researcher could participate at the project, Dr. Gibatdinov pointed out³.

At the ICCEES the partners from Germany – Dr. Mieste Hotopp-Riecke, ICATAT⁴ – and Japan – Dr. Larissa Usmanova – presented together with Dr. Marat Gibatdinov⁵ outcomes of the first stage of the project⁶. At the process of preparation the panel were involved also other colleagues from Crimea, Poland, Turkey and Germany like Dr. Stephan Theilig (director Brandenburg-Prussia Museum Germany), Dr. Temur Kurshutov and Prof. Leyla Coşan (Marmara Üniversitesi İstanbul). The both parts in Japan and Germany are the most succesfully and developed departments of yazma miras project at the moment because they started already in April 2014, but there will follow next steps to admitt project groups and/or collaborators in Italy⁷, Turkey, Poland and Scandinavia. M.M. Gibatdinov explained with his presentation the targets, structure and efforts of the project, which is basicly financed by the state programm“Saving, analysing and developing of state languages and further languages in the Republic og Tatarstan“⁸: A systematical survey through archives worldwide should create a kind of national archive of historical sources concerning the history of Tatars and their relationships to other nations since the very beginn. Every epoche or century as well as each



Presented „Yazma Miras“ at ICCEES Tokyo: Dr. Larissa Usmanova, Dr. Mieste Hotopp-Riecke, Dr. Marat Gibatdinov

geographical direction hast o be take into account. The both farest opponent areas – Germany in the West and Japan in the East – were focused now at the roundtable in Makuhari. Dr. Gibatdinov gave the outlook that every year will be published one volume minimum. The book series is structured as

² At the Baltic Island of Hiddensee, University of Greifswald was signed the in 2011 the protocoll for cooperation between Centre of History and Theory of National Education at the Shihabudin-Märdzhani-Institute for History (Цитно), Academy of Sciences Republic of Tatarstan, Scientific Research Centre for Crimean Tatar History, Language and Culture at the KIPU (НИЦ), Aqmescit/Simferopol, Crimea, the Institute for Caucasica-, Tatarica- and Turkestan Studies (ICATAT) Germany, Department of Cultural Anthropology, Nicolaus Copernicus University Torun, Poland as well as the Department for Tatar History of the Kazan Federal University of Tatarstan (KFU), see full text under: <https://icatat.files.wordpress.com/2011/07/protokoll-von-hiddensee.pdf> (22.08.2015).

³ If there are any suggestions, ideas, possibilities for cooperation among our readers: do not hesitate to contact the project overhead via phone or mail under: .

⁴ Institute for Caucasica-, Tatarica- and Turkestann-Studies, founded in Berlin, Germany, 2005 (www.icatat.de).

⁵ Head of the Research Center for Theory and history of national education at the Sh. Mardzhani Institute for History, Academy of Sciences of the Republic Tatarstan (www.tataroved.ru).

⁶ See: Kameda, Masumi / Matsuzato, Kimitaka / Numano, Mitsuyoshi (Eds.): ICCEES World Congress. Programm Makuhari – Where many Wests meets many Easts. Tokyo: University of Tokyo, 2015, p. 119.

⁷ The material in Arab, Italian, Persian and Latin language stored at Veneranda Biblioteca Ambrosiana in Milan/Milano, <http://www.ambrosiana.eu/jsp/index.jsp>

⁸ „Сохранение, изучение и развитие государственных языков Республики Татарстан и других языков в Республике Татарстан“ на 2014 – 2020 годы

follows: On one hand the publications will present materials in chronological order all through the millenium from 13.to 20. Century and on the other hand special volumes are highlightening special persons or events of Tatar history (in discussion for instance: Abdurashid Ibrahim, Ayas Ishaki, Musa Dzhailil or Dzhelal ad-Din and the Battle of Grunvald in documents/facsimilies). Dr. Gibatdinov presented at ICCEES the first Volume of the Yazma Miras book series, a work written by Abdulgaffar Kyrymi "Umdet al-Akhbar", an unique source oft he 18th century. The book was awarded with the Bekir Çobanzade International Book Award 2014 at the histoical-turkological Conference in Karasubazar, Crimea and shows

As the second participant presented Dr. Mieste Hotopp-Riecke diverse documents discovered in different archives on federal, county and municipality level, of state financed as well as NGO-based archives. Concerning the oldest records he explained that there are to face different problems: German language consits of two languages – High German and Lower German – and in each of this both one has to pay attention to different dialects. This different dialects in two languages are written in considerable different scripts and styles. Beside this morphological issues their are orthographic and topographic influences on the file contents: Some persons of interest are mentioned in five or seven different kind, for example like the „Komtur von Mewe“, a clergyman of the Teutonic Order, who dealt with correspondence with Tatar nobel men in the Baltics. Another research obstacle are the wars of the last century, as for example the Prussian Secret State Archive



The Library of Kanda International UniversityTokyo Books concerning the theme German-Tatar relations were handed over as present by the project group



Yazma Miras project group presented documents of Volga-Polish- and Crimean Tatars from 15.-20 century dicovered in archives of Japan and Germany

was partly burned, evacuated in different pieces and divided into several parts – each stored in other locations (like normal buildings but even former salt mines). The so far identified approximatly 500 documents are written in different languages like German, Italian, Tatar, French, Latin, Polish and Russian language and the plan is to publish some facsimilies of each language but even als of each kind of record, as there are Passports, yarliqs, lists of delegations, letters of the khans and Kings, secret service reports, court protocolls etc. There is a lot to do for the next years and a need of further cooperation and a more of budget Hotopp-Riecke pointed out.

The third presentation descibed the state of art concerning Tatar documents in Japanese archives and institutions like the archive of Waseda University (Materials related to the Great Japan Islamic Association) and the Hattori Shiro Archive (Shimane University). Dr. Larissa Usmanova explained the content of documents and stuff at the archives of the Muslim community in Tokyo. These unique material remained in the printing office of the 1938 erected first Mosque of Tokyo, which was build by Tatar refugees from Volga-Ural region. They fled from Bolshevist repressive power to Mandshuria

and further to Japan 100 years ago. The unpublished material regarding Tatar-Japanese history has to be collect, translate and analyze in order to create one of the next volume in the framework of the „Yazma Miras“ book series at the Mardzhany-Institute for History. Especially the periodical publishings like "Yaña Milli Yul" (Berlin), "Yaña Japon Mohbire" (Tokyo), "Milli Bayrak" (Munih) and "Vaqt" (Orenburg) are rare stuff which is until today not collected and analysed completely in any national archive of Tatarstan or other countries.

Their comments dedicated at the Yazma Miras panel colleagues from diverse institutions around the globe, as Prof. Dr. Márta Font (University Pécs, Hungary), Dr. Güljanat Kurmangaliyeva Ercilasun (Gazi



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Meeting Ramazan bey, the son of the first Tatar Imam of Tokvo at the Yunus Emre Institute

Üniversitesi Ankara), Prof. Dr. Fail Safin (RAN, Ufa, Bashkortostan), Dr. Rozaliya Garipova (University of Pennsylvania, USA).

The conference was embeded in a rich side programm consisting of book sellers exhibitions, book presentaions by authors, discussions, excursions and informal meetings. One such meeting was held at the House of culture at the Mosque in Tokyo. The roundtable was conducted by Telat Aydın, director of the Yunus Emre Enstitüsü Japan (YEE)⁹. Mr. Aydın offered the guests from America, Turkey, Europe and Russia a tour through the house and the Mosque as well as through historical and contemporary facts. The YEE Tokyo is offering a wide agenda of services like Tatar languages courses¹⁰, lessons in Turkish language, cooperations and preparations of cultural events like exhibitions, film / anime shows, publications together with Japanese institutions etc. As Mr. Aydın explained the Ottoman-Japanese history began with an accident, a disastrous crach at the Pacific Ocean: The Ottoman frigate „Ertuğlul“ was sunken in a storm over sea while returning from a goodwill voyage from Japan to Asia Minor¹¹ in 1890. She encountered a typhoon off the coast of Wakayama Prefecture, subsequently drifted into a reef and sank. The maritime accident resulted in the loss of 533 sailors, including Admiral Ali Osman Pasha. Only sixty-nine sailors and officers survived and returned home later aboard two Japanese corvettes. The event is still commemorated as a foundation stone of Japanese-Turkish friendship and Mr.



⁹ <http://tokyo.yee.org.tr/tr/genelhaberler>. Further informations concerning Turkish-Japanese history see: Öztürk, Nazif: Tokyo: Türk Diyanet Camii Vakfı Tokyo, 2014.

¹⁰ As announced by the World Forum of Tatar Youth (Бөтендөнъя татар яшьләре жыены), see online under URL: <http://intertat.ru/tt/novosti/item/37846.html> (24.8.2015).

¹¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottoman_frigate_Ertu%C4%9Ful



Tokyo Mosque in Shibuya quarter

The Organizing Committee declares the Congress closed. (from left) Kimitaka Matsuzato, Masumi Kameda, Nobuo Shimotomai, Mitsuyoshi Numano



Professor Andrii Krawchuk (Vice President of ICCEES) announces that he will host the next World Congress to be held in Montreal in 2020.

Aydin handed out a special gift to the foreign guests: A commemoration medal of the 125 anniversary of the Ottoman-Japanese relations respectively the accident of „Ertuğrul“ frigate in 1890¹². As the vice president of ICCEES ¹³stated at the closing ceremony in Tokyo the next ICCEES congress will be held in Montreal, Canada, in 2020. A good opportunity to present the outcomes of Yazma Miras project to the international scientific community.

さようなら Sayounara Nippon! Isän sau bul Tokyo! Good-bye, Makuhari!

¹² A Turkish documentary shows the „History of Tatars in Japan / Japonya’da Türklerin tarihi“ online under URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqkIcqxRDD>

¹³ Prof. at University of Sudbury, Canada, Department of religious studies, specialized on intercultural studies, online under URL: <http://usudbury.ca/index.php/fr/departements/sciences-religieuses/item/55> (22.8.2015).