The Crimean Tatars From Soviet Genocide To Putins Conquest | 17680e8c1fafb9c85ac54caba8b5f45e4


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In the early morning hours of May 18, 1944 the Russian army, under orders from Stalin, deported the entire Crimean Tatar population from their historical homeland. Given only fifteen minutes to gather their belongings, they were herded into cattle cars bound for Soviet Central Asia. Although the official Soviet record was cleansed of this affair and the name of their ethnic group was erased from all records and official documents, the Crimean Tatars did not assimilate with other groups or disappear. This is an ethnographic study of the negotiation of social memory and the role this had in the growth of a national repatriation movement among the Crimean Tatars. It examines the recollections of the Crimean Tatars, the techniques by which they are produced and transmitted and the formation of a remarkably uniform social memory in light of their dispersion throughout Central Asia. Through the lens of social memory, the book covers not only the deportation and life in the diaspora but the process by which the children and grandchildren of the deportees 'returned' and anchored themselves in the Crimean Peninsula, a place they had never visited.

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This volume provides the most up-to-date analysis of the ethnic cleansing of the Crimean Tatars, their exile in Central Asia and their struggle to return to the Crimean homeland. It also traces the formation of this diaspora nation from Mongol to the collapse of the Soviet Union. A theme which emerges through the work is the gradual construction of the Crimea as a national homeland by its indigenous Tatar population. It ends with a discussion of the post-Soviet repatriation of the Crimean Tatars to their Russified homeland and the social, emotional and identity problems involved.

The history of the Crimea is recounted, from its earliest known settlements, through the many invasions it has experienced over 2000 years, to the present time when the world awaits the outcome of the return of the Crimea to Russia.

The first in a series of volumes to discuss the history and development of the non-Russian nationalities in the Soviet Union. --"Professor Fisher's excellent book is brief but clear and succinct. It should be required reading for all students of Russian and European History."--Slavic Review

"Resisting Ethnic Cleansing: Crimean Tatars Against and Within the Soviet Union, 1944-1991," examines Stalin's multi-faceted ethnic cleansing of the Crimean Peninsula and how the region's largest ethnic group, Crimean Tatars, created a decades-long protest movement to resist each aspect of Stalin's policy. First, I argue that Stalin's deportation and exile of Crimean Tatars amounted to a bureaucratic genocide: a Soviet iteration on state violence that used inefficiency, irresponsibility, confusion, and loyalty to the system to destroy the national and class "enemies" of the Soviet Union. Second, this study emphasizes how ethnic cleansing in Crimea was extraordinary in the way Soviet power transformed Crimea after the deportations. From 1944 to 1954, this transformation created a "new Russian Crimea" through policies of mass settlement, land redistribution, and renaming geographic locations and rewriting history. Third, having revealed the full extent Stalin's project, I explore how Crimean Tatars created the largest protest movement in the postwar Soviet Union. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Crimean Tatar activists and everyday citizens established contacts with Soviet dissidents and Western human rights activists to create a transnational protest movement. Through this network, a small, repressed nation demanded specific changes from what was one of the world's most complex state bureaucracies and framed their arguments within the international language of protest and human rights. They accomplished their main goal, and returned to Crimea as the Soviet Union collapsed. Overall, this project highlights how activists can incorporate the ideas and language of post-Nuremberg human rights into practical actions and how ordinary citizens can work simultaneously within and outside of a repressive state to resist a repressive policy state.
This book explains the unexpected mobilization of the Crimean Tatar diaspora in recent decades through an exploration of the exile experiences of the Crimean Tatars in Central Asia, Middle East, Eastern Europe, and North America. This book adds to the growing literature on diaspora case studies and is essential reading for researchers and students of diasporas, migration, ethnicity, nationalism, transnationalism, identity formation and social movements. Moreover, this book is relevant both for specialists in Crimean Tatar Studies and for the larger fields of Communist, Post-Communist, Middle Eastern, European, and American studies.


This study is the first and only scholarly attempt to cover the process of the formation of the modern national identity among the Crimean Tatars during the first decades of this century. It also illuminates similar processes among the other Turkic peoples of the Russian Empire.

First published in 1983, this book traces the historical and cultural development of the Soviet Muslim population. Going back to the Mongol Empire and the Russian conquest of Muslim lands under the Tsars, it demonstrates how the present Soviet Islamic culture has emerged. It also examines how Soviet Muslims interact with the Muslim world abroad and how Soviet Muftis have been used as ambassadors of the USSR in Muslim countries.

The final chapter relates the evolution of these conflicting loyalties to the global weakening of the nation-state, and distinguishes what is particular to the Soviet state and its demise from more significant questions of analytical import posed by the collapse of a major contemporary multi-national state.

Internal Colonialism: Questioning the Soviet Union as a Settler Colonial State Through the Deportation of the Crimean Tatars This study examines the deportation of the Crimean Tatars by the Soviet Union in 1944 and questions whether it was an example of settler colonialism in action. The Soviet Union’s actions throughout its history have often been deemed colonial and imperialist, however settler colonial theory has rarely been applied to Soviet studies. At a surface level, the deportation appears to fit into settler colonial theory, however upon further scrutiny it becomes clear that it fails to satisfy the necessary conditions. The evidence presented in this essay shows that the deportation of the Crimean Tatars was an event, not a lasting structural change in the Soviet Union. Settler colonial theory posits that settler colonialism is not confined to a single event and is impervious to regime change. The deportation of the Crimean Tatars was the project of a single leader, Joseph Stalin, and the majority of its effects were limited to a short period of time during and after his rule. The event had less to do with the ethnicity of the Crimean Tatars and more with securing the Soviet Union’s borders with Turkey and maintaining control over the Black Sea. The study concludes that although the deportation of the Crimean Tatars is not proof of settler colonialism in action in the Soviet Union, the topic is worth further investigation, as it is dangerous to exclude any powerful nation from such examination. Uranium Fever: Willful Ignorance in Service of Utopia This essay explores public knowledge of the dangers of radium and uranium in the United States between the 1920s and 1960s. It is often assumed that Americans were not aware that radioactive materials presented a danger to their health. Through the examination of mass media, court cases, and newspapers of the time, it becomes clear that not only did Americans know about the dangers of radiation, but that there was a concerted effort by the government and corporations with business interests in radioactive materials to minimize these fears and convince Americans that the dangers were necessary in order to bring about a utopian future of unlimited energy. Americans consciously chose to remain ignorant and ignore clear evidence that radioactive materials were dangerous and willingly followed the propaganda produced by these actors. The reasons Americans chose this path varied from a desire for profit to patriotism.

Nation-building as a process is never complete and issues related to identity, nation, state and regime-building are recurrent in the post-Soviet region. This comparative, inter-disciplinary volume explores how nation-building tools emerged and evolved over the last twenty years. Featuring in-depth case studies from countries throughout the post-Soviet space it compares various aspects of nation-building and identity formation projects. Approaching the issue from a variety of disciplines, and geographical areas, contributors illustrate chapter by chapter how different state and non-state actors utilise traditional instruments of nation-construction in new ways while also developing non-traditional tools and strategies to provide a contemporary account of how nation-formation efforts evolve and diverge.

Taking as its starting point the 1783 Russian conquest of the independent Tatar state known as the Crimean Khanate, this book explains how the peninsula's native population, with ethnic roots among the Goths, Kipchak Turks, and Mongols, was scattered across the Ottoman Empire. It also traces their later emigration and the radical transformation of this conservative tribal-religious group into a modern, politically mobilized, secular nation under Soviet rule.

The dissolution of the Soviet Union brought about multidimensional problems to the former republics of the USSR and their inhabitants. In 1990s Ukraine, Crimea became a center of conflict between Ukraine and Russia over the former Soviet Black Sea Fleet and Crimea itself, perceived as historically their own by both sides of the conflict. Local Crimean authorities took advantage of the specificity of a demographic situation in Crimea were Ukrainians, the titular nation, are in minority and considerably Russified to claim for autonomy. Later, they attempted to secede from Ukraine. At the same time, the Crimean Tatar influx from exile, orchestrated by the Stalin regime in 1944, further exacerbated the ‘triangle of conflict’ between the dyads Russia-Ukraine and Crimea-Ukraine. The Crimean Tatars, currently 12 percent of the Crimean population, proclaimed Crimea the national territory of the Crimean Tatar people, on which they alone possess the right to self government and claimed greater rights for themselves as allegedly the most indigenous peoples in Crimea, while the rest are colonizers. The thesis explains the historical developments in Crimea and attempts to draw implications to the Ukrainian government in dealing with Crimean Tatar nationalism which seems to be overcoming the problems within the ‘triangle of conflict’ that was so sharp in 1990s.

Examines the situation of the Crimean Tatars since the breakup of the USSR and their continuing struggle to find peace and acceptance in a homeland.

Examines the challenges and opportunities of the Crimean peninsula within the newly independent country of Ukraine and in light of the strong separatist movement. The nine studies are from an international conference in Kiev, Ukraine, in October 1994. Among the topics are the socioeconomic situation, interethnic relations, Ukrainian presidential and parliamentary elections, the importance of Crimea to Ukraine, the balance of power in the
Black Sea, and US security interests in Crimea. Includes a detailed chronology and appendices of 11 important documents. Published in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Paper edition (unseen), $22.95. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Provides an historical overview of the serious nationalism crisis within the Soviet Union, and argues that it could easily undermine Gorbachev's recent reforms.

The 'Return to the Homeland Movement' of one of the Crimean Tatars, is the principal subject of this article. Whereas Western observers have generally focused their attention on Russian and Jewish dissidents in the Moscow area, they have given somewhat less consideration to protesting members of other nationalities in other parts of the Soviet Union. Therefore a description of Crimean Tatar disidence provides an opportunity to demonstrate that national dissent is more widespread (and as will be seen, more violent) than is perhaps generally believed. Here it might also be mentioned that dissent from Crimean Tatars in isolation from the other currents of dissent mentioned above cannot be viewed. Therefore when Crimean Tatar activities are known to have merged with those of other dissidents throughout the USSR, the occurrences will be noted. It is useful to bear in mind that the present disidence of Crimean Tatars is merely a modern-day form of their past resistance to coercion and their determination to secure their national rights. Therefore a brief treatment of the history of the Crimean Tatars, and particularly their opposition to Russian domination, is discussed.

Contributed papers.

This timely study provides a clear analysis of both the domestic and foreign policies and security issues confronting RussiaOs largest and most important neighbor during its first decade as an independent state. Roman Solchanyk emphasizes throughout the book, the complex, centuries-old Ukrainian-Russian relationship, which is so central that the ORussian questionO plays the determining role in UkraineOs foreign and domestic politics. In turn, the policy choices of UkrainesOs leaders influence the direction of RussiaOs own transformation. The book opens with a conceptual framework that addresses the key issues of the Ukrainian-Russian relationship. The initial chapters illustrate how relations between Kyiv and Moscow changed in the final analysis, dramatically under the conditions of a crumbling and ultimately collapsing Soviet state. This is followed by a discussion of how the ORussian questionO influences UkraineOs internal developments political, social, and economic as well as its behavior in the international arena. The concluding chapters focus specifically on Crimea, a microcosm of the Ukrainian-Russian relationship. Basing his argument on a wealth of primary source material, the author argues that the success of both UkraineOs and RussiaOs nation- and state-building projects will be largely determined by the normalization of their historically conditioned relationship. Indeed, success or failure will profoundly influence the evolution of todayOs relationship. Foreign and European policy and security.

Was Sulla before Spartacus or vice versa? Nero – before or after Caligula? What are the dynasties of the Habsburgs and the Hohenzollerns, what role did they play at the founding of the Second Reich? How many tanks went into battle near Prokhorovka? When the Yom Kippur War broke out and who won it? Why did the great USSR collapse? LetOs remember everything that once touched us, we will look through the film of time, frame by frame, so that to make everything right today.

*Includes pictures *Includes a bibliography for further reading A history of the Tatar peoples covers a huge expanse of territory, time, and the rise and fall of many Tatar communities. As such, they played a role in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East over several centuries, and from Ghenghis Khan to Ivan the Terrible and Josef Stalin, some of historyOs most infamous tyrants have played a key role in this story. Crucially, the history of the Tatars is one that seems to take place at the fringes of the great empires. Geographically the Tatars descend from several parts of Asia, particularly Central Asia, but the Crimean region has been the nexus of several great power rivalries and numerous conflicts. Yet the Crimean Tatars endured through many of these, aligning themselves with a number of larger powers and developing a reputation as fearsome warriors. Today the Tatars are mainly linked with and live in the Volga region of the Russian Federation. Indeed, Tatarstan is a republic in modern Russia. The "Volga Tatars" are perhaps the best known of the peoples known as Tatars and today number about 5 million people. Yet, other Tatars and those descending from Tatars also live in modern Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Turkey and many other countries in Europe and former Soviet republics. What, then, defines a Tatar? Historically, Tatars have been considered ethnically Turkic and related to Central (and North) Asian peoples. In practice, this meant the Turkic and Mongol peoples that were predominantly nomadic or semi-nomadic. Tatars, for the most part, converted to Islam and their lands, once settled, were punctuated by mosques and Islamic religious practices. Perhaps the best example of Tatar culture that survives today is in the Kazan region of Tatarstan around the Volga River, for instance the Kul-Sharif mosque in Kazan. As the centuries progressed, the Tatars came to represent an important group within Russia and its surrounding countries, as not only members of those societies but also sitting slightly outside the establishment. One example would be Ukraine, where the Crimean Tatars were important players in the politics and trade of the region, but who were essentially independent until the Russian Empire came to dominate the Crimean Peninsula. The Tatars represented a unique fusion of Central Asian culture, style and practices and in many ways represent the crossroads between east and west. However, for centuries they also represented the marauding hordes of eastern invaders who remained in the Ukraine and Russia region and appeared to be engaged in perpetual war. Once the Tatars had been incorporated into the Russian Empire and then its successor the Soviet Union, they were often discriminated against. In the case of Soviet leader Josef StalinOs rule, that meant deportation as "suspicious" fifth columnists. The Tatars would fight for repatriation up until the end of the Crimean period and beyond. The Tatars: The History of the Tatar Ethnic Groups and Tatar Confederation looks at the origins of the ethnic groups, their place in medieval times, and their impact on various modern nations. Along with pictures depicting important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Tatars like never before.

The annexation of the Crimea, a former autonomous Republic of Ukraine, by the Russian Federation which took place in March 2014 has had profound implications for every sphere of life in the region. The heated debate around the legitimacy of the annexation has caused multiple discussions on the local and international levels about the nation-building policies used throughout history by the Soviet and Ukrainian states that had control of the peninsula. Assumptions have also been made concerning the possible identity construction policies used by the Russian government towards their new citizens. Since primary education serves as an effective channel for instilling into populations the feelings of patriotism and loyalty to the state and its institutions, early literacy textbooks serve as a reflection of the dominant ideology of the state. This study is an attempt to examine the nature of education policies aimed at national identity (re)building processes in Crimea during the Soviet, Ukrainian, and the most recent Russian periods. Specifically, it aims to examine the role of primary education textbooks in promoting assimilation policies. Using critical discourse analysis of nine primers from the Soviet, Ukrainian, and Russian periods of Crimean governance, I analyze texts and illustrations in line with the following questions: How is Tatar national identity constructed in early literacy textbooks? What values are prioritized by the state? And how is Tatar childhood portrayed and imagined in textbooks? The findings of the research reveal that early literacy textbooks serve as a major tool of political socialization of children and reflect respective state ideologies dominant during each historical period.