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Report

Theme: national minorities` rights in Kazakhstan

Contributor: Kazhet Andas, journalist of «Jetisu» newspaper (Kazakhstan)

The peculiarities of the state structure of the Republic of Kazakhstan are mainly specified in article 1 of the current Constitution adopted at the National Referendum on 30 August 1995. The relevant article of the Constitution states: "The Republic of Kazakhstan asserts itself as a democratic, secular, legal and social state, whose highest values are an individual, his life, rights and freedoms." These are the main principles that determine the basis of economic, political, state and legal system of the Republic of Kazakhstan. These mentioned grounds, which define the constitutional system of the Republic of Kazakhstan, reflect the centuries-old proven world experience in state system formation.

The Republic of Kazakhstan, being one of the members of the world community, decided to establish a democratic state in the country. If we turn to history, in this case it should be noted that the problem of establishing democratic society was not simple. At every stage of establishment there were supporters of democracy and those who denied it. It is known that Democracy originates from the ancient Greek, Roman antique epochs. Democracy in state development of contemporary Europe has become one of the main guarantors of its sustainable existence in society. Today, formation of the democratic state is thought to be a brilliant support for implementation all possibilities of society members. It is not a secret that the Republic of Kazakhstan on the way of formation its democratic development has gone through direct and twisting ways. We are also far from boasting that there have not been any faults. Humanity has also made great contribution to development of the democratic course of civilization .

Nowadays, representatives of more than 130 nationalities and nations live in Kazakhstan. There are number of historical reasons that explain their arrival in this country. As a result of the events that humanity faced war, extermination, resettlement, and other tragic disasters, representatives of different nationalities from all over the world being in search of peace and quiet, found refuge in the Kazakh land, now in Kazakhstan. Hospitable Kazakh people did not push them away, but accepted them, thereby showing their brotherhood and understanding. As a result, they got used to and live happily in our country. Today, their generations have equal rights as citizens of Kazakhstan. They have the opportunity to receive education, medical treatment, to hold higher positions. All necessary conditions have been created for nationalities and nations living in our country to develop their culture and preserve their traditions and customs. They all have permanently operating national cultural centers. Cultural centers have great influence on preservation national traditions of different nationalities representatives. At the same

time, they all contribute development of cultural diversity of multinational Kazakhstan.

Today, independent Kazakhstan as a democracy-oriented state is a party of interstate bilateral, multilateral international and legal agreements adopted within the framework of the International community. In addition, close links are established with international organizations for the purpose of development various spheres of the society at the international level. For Kazakhstan, which has been the member since 1992, it is especially important to observe OSCE principles. In this regard, it is worth to note that in 2010 Kazakhstan chaired the OSCE. Following the Summit, the Astana Declaration was adopted. The Declaration states the following: "We confirm again that human rights and freedoms are inseparable, their protection and support are our main task. We appreciate the important role played by civil society and independent media in promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, fair elections and primacy of the law." This is an initiative that today has great creditability in the world community.

The First Forum of the people of Kazakhstan was held in December, 1992 . In the work of the Forum printed with golden letters in history, the First President of Kazakhstan, Head of the state Nursultan Nazarbayev noted that unity, harmony and friendship of people play a key role in order to let Kazakhstan enter one of the developed countries, and the people of the country could achieve rich, high standard of living and welfare. In this regard, in March ,1995, the Assembly of people of Kazakhstan was established as an advisory body under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It was a new initiative that has no analogues in the world. Since then, all work carried out by the Assembly have been displayed in front of Kazakhstani people. Nowadays, the Assembly has become the most important instrument for implementation the state policy in the field of interethnic and interfaith relations and the only organization that plays a significant role in ensuring equal interaction of all ethnic groups living in the country. Today the Concept of the Assembly development is being implemented until 2025. Even in the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan the representatives of the Assembly were granted 9 seats. As a result of the survey regarding the activities of the Assembly, 97.5% of Kazakhstani people declared that the Assembly reflects the interests of all our people.

Of course, we can express various positive reviews about the Assembly of people of Kazakhstan, which granted equal rights to nationalities and people for peaceful life and freedom. The rest later. I will dwell on the state of affairs of the Assembly of people of Kazakhstan of the Almaty Region , which I see every day, participate in its work and have written lots of articles.

Today the whole system of continuous monitoring of interethnic processes is created in the Region. The main elements of this system are the Council of public consent, the Council of mothers, Friendship House and mediation rooms. One of the main directions of their activity is to

promote charity, increase civic responsibility and social activity of the population. Also, the Council of mothers of the region, as experience shows, is a family institution. Almaty Region is one of 14 regions and three cities of Kazakhstan. The population is more than 1 million people. It is an administrative structure consisting of 20 districts-cities. Representatives of 105 ethnic groups live in the Region. The Regional action plan for implementation the Concept of development of the Assembly of people of Kazakhstan until 2025 was approved. Last year it was the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Friendship House in Taldykorgan, which became the center of friendship, unity and harmony. According to the survey, the number of activists working together with the Regional Assembly has reached 60 thousand people; there are 71 ethnic and cultural associations, 422 Councils of public consent, 266 Councils of mothers. Most likely, it is not necessary to write all this down in the smallest details. Due to the fact that today's meeting is held on the Polish land, it should be noted about the cultural and educational center "Polonia", which unites about a thousand poles living in the Almaty Region. This center has been functioning in Almaty Region since 1997. It is headed by Elena Porseva, who annually holds events aimed at strengthening social harmony and stability.

The Regional Friendship House was opened on November 28, 2008. The purpose of the Friendship House is implementation of the state national policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Law "On the Assembly of people of Kazakhstan", creation of favorable conditions for further strengthening of interethnic harmony and tolerance in society, revival, preservation and development of national culture, languages and traditions of the people of Kazakhstan. In this case, we can say that there are institutions and special services in the world that protect the rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities. But almost nowhere there is a special place called

"Friendship House" as in Kazakhstan, where representatives of the Assembly of people and ethnos can gather and hold events to preserve their culture and traditions, language and mentality.

It should be borne in mind that religion in any society, including in Kazakhstan has its particular importance, and also has its place in the lives of young people. There are various religious movements in Kazakhstan. At the same time, today it is necessary to be able to differ between religious movements of the correct orientation, meeting the norms of morality, charity and harmony. From this point of view, stability and harmony between different religions have been firmly established in the Almaty Region. Representatives of different nationalities and religions live peacefully and amicably in the Region. So, today there are 616 religious associations and their branches in our Region. Among them 450 Islamic mosques, 52 Orthodox, 11 Roman Catholic, 101 Protestant and 2 non-traditional religious associations operate in the framework of the law. These associations employ 305 ministers of religion of Christian and non-traditional religious orientation. Among them 73 Orthodox, 29 Roman Catholic, 200 Protestants, 2 Bahai, 1 Krishna. In Christianity and non-

traditional religious areas 55 have higher education, 41 secondary education, 209 from the category of employees who attended courses. Thus, it is a remarkable manifestation of religious freedom for representatives of small nationalities. However, it is clear that since this is a society, there can sometimes be misunderstandings between different religious beliefs. We can not say that this is not in Kazakhstan. But they are resolved in a tolerant way within the framework of the law on the basis of agreement.

In addition, it cannot be assumed that Kazakhstan is working only in the direction of preserving the culture and traditions of national minorities, strengthening their language and mentality. Members of the minority are given the opportunity to defend their rights legally, to demand freedom of thoughts and religion, and to participate in peaceful meetings. At the same time, access is open to participate in all state programs and benefit from them. Now in the media, on television channels talk shows, interviews, broadcasts on the theme of friendship of the peoples of Kazakhstan. There is a secret of it. The Kazakh people since olden times have been friendly, sympathetic people who love humanity despite their race and nationality. This principle will continue.