Settling the past: Soviet oriental projects in Leningrad and Alma-Ata

Bustanov, A.K.

Publication date
2013

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgments

My foremost gratitude goes to the initiators of my thesis Michael Kemper (Amsterdam) and Stéphane Dudoignon (Paris). They made possible my resettling to Amsterdam in 2009, opened for me the doors into the Western scholarship and in many respects reshaped my attitude towards scientific work.

At the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts (formerly St. Petersburg/ Leningrad Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies) the renowned specialist in Old-Turkic history Sergei G. Kliashtornyi generously acted as my mentor. At the Oriental faculty of St. Petersburg University I was guided by the expert in Central Asian Islamic historiography Tursun I. Sultanov. I thank Stanislav M. Prozorov, Roman Iu. Pocheikaev, Dmitrii Rukhliaev, Aleksandr G. Iurchenko, Irina R. Katkova, Pavel Lur’e and Asan Torgaev for fruitful discussions, academic advice and organizational help every time when I appear in St. Petersburg. I furthermore thank Svetlana N. Korusenko who supported my undergraduate work at Omsk University.

It was a great pleasure for me to experience the Kazakh hospitality during my trips to Almaty, Turkestan, Sayrām and Chimkent in 2009 and 2010. Many thanks go to Ashirbek K. Muminov, Mervert Kh. Abuseitova, Kanat Uskenbay, Safar Abdullo, Erbulat A. Smagulov and the collective of the Turkestan Archeological Expedition who made my trips fascinating and useful. During a joint visit to Almaty Nicolló Pianciola (Hong Kong) shared with me his experience in writing about early twentieth century Kazakh society.

I received positive critique, help with sources and literature and wise recommendations from many colleagues all over the globe: Devin DeWeese (Bloomington, USA), Allen J. Frank (Takoma-Park, USA), Paolo Sartori (Vienna, Austria), Bakhtiyar Babadjanov (Tashkent, Uzbekistan), Sergei Abashin, Vladimir Bobrovnikov, Vadim Trepavlov, Il’ia Zaitsev, Shamil’ Shikhaliev (Makhachkala), and Pavel Petrov (Nizhnii Novgorod). This dissertation was written in a great intellectual atmosphere created by my colleagues at the Eastern European department of Amsterdam University including Hanna Jansen, Sara Crombach, Artemy Kalinovsky and Christian Noack.