

THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY OF THE ARCHIVAL SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TATARSTAN IN 1990-2000

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Relevance of research on the activity of Republic of Tatarstan archival service is conditioned by its future perspective in the context of scientific and departmental cooperation of domestic and foreign archivists. The article is directed on designation of that information and documentation potential which is possessed by the subjects of Russian Federation, in this case, on the example of the Republic of Tatarstan. The leading approach used in this research is the problem – oriented, thematic approach which has allowed us to trace back the evolution of various forms of Tatarstan’s archival establishment’s activities in the international field for ten years. The main results of research lie in systematization and synthesis of ideas concerning archival establishment’s international activity of the Russian Federation’s specific federal subject given in research on the example of the Republic of Tatarstan. In this research we outline the principal value of this kind of activity - replenishment of Tatarstan Archival fund by originals and copies of documents on the Tatarstan Republic’s history and people. One more potential is revealed which is owned by the Republic of Tatarstan which is strengthening of ties with scientific and public organizations all over the world. These are documentary complexes possessing more and more increasing value in the conditions of information society. The article establishes the point that direction on creation and replenishment of representative source base should be further developed. A new concept - genealogical tourism is offered, which allows our republic to increase the presence at scientific information space, using the documentary potential. Materials of the article can be useful for teaching such subjects as archive science, the history of archiving in Russia, contemporary history of Russia and also this material will be useful for studying the subject of the world history of archiving.

Keywords: international activity; Archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan (RT); “Rossika”; “Tatarika”; International Council of Archives (ICA).

INTRODUCTION

Emergence of this topic became possible only in 1990 - 2000. Change of a political situation in Russia in the late 1980 s early 1990s led to the fact that federal subjects of Russian received an opportunity to enter independently the international level in various areas. It also has a great influence to Russia’s archival establishment activity. In particular, in the Republic of Tatarstan it was promoted by proclamation of declaration on the State Sovereignty (1990) and adoption of the Constitution of the Tatarstan Republic (1992). Thus, relevance of the studied problem is caused by the need of improvement of Russia’s archival activity for building of mutually beneficial contacts as well as with the representatives of archival institutions actually of the Russian Federation’s subjects, and with archival establishments of the neighboring countries and far abroad.

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So, in the 1990-2000th along with traditional kinds of activity another new one gained the development — in the sphere of the international relations which has three main directions:

- participation in the international forums, conferences, congresses;
- signing of cooperation agreements in archiving area;
- identification and return of archival documents on history of the Tatar nation and the people of Tatarstan

The undoubted factor increasing authority of the Republic Tatarstan public service is its acceptance in the International Council of Archives (ICA) as the authorized member according to the recommendation of Federal Archival Agency of Russia (Rosarkhiv). MSA is the international non-governmental organization which has consultative status in UNESCO. Three main objectives of MSA include: support archiving development in all countries; strengthening of ties between the archivists of these countries; ensuring safety and the use of archival documents among wide layers of civilians, considerable access to them (Sharafutdinov, 2000).

The study of the Russian Federation's archival establishments' history has a great significance in the system of specialist student's professional training. These researches take cross – sectoral position between various branches of humanitarian and natural knowledge, therefore while studying the structure of the Russian Federation's subject's archival establishment's activity the problem of interdisciplinary synthesis is realized (Horkhordina and Volkov, 2012). Thus, these researches in general deepen understanding of historical interrelations and regularities found in society development.

The upper chronological bound of our research is defined by us 1994 when the public archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan was admitted to the International Council of archives. It should be noted that Tatarstan was the first territorial subject of the Russian Federation included into so reputable international organization (Ibragimov, 2011). How can we explain this circumstance? From our point of view it is explained by the special attitude of Tatarstan Republic authorities to archives and archival service during that period. This special attitude was also expressed in the fact that problems of archival service were discussed at the highest state level, there was an understanding of the special importance of the archival document (The public archival service of Tatarstan (1916-2006): Collection of documents and materials, 2006). For today the attention and interest in problems of archivists and archival service though is seemingly constant, but significantly wanes in comparison with years 1990-2000. (Horkhordina and Volkov, 2012). Thus, studying the functioning of archival history of the Russian Federation, in general, and the Republic of Tatarstan, in particular, helps students to actualize their knowledge acquired earlier and to study more deeply new material.

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The methodology of research approaches allows us to see the main tendencies in archive science development, to estimate diverse practice of researchers-theorists, methodologists and the practicing teachers, to learn structure and level of methodological knowledge of predecessors and contemporaries.

Conceptual ideas in scientific works studying the problems of teaching history at school and higher education institution became the theoretical and methodological background for this scientific research. The use of methodology and teaching techniques of the existing researches contribute to the development of historical, archive oriented, scientific thought in practice of teaching basics of archive science, ways and methods of research work in this field.

Systemic – structural approach gave opportunity to study complex methods of teaching fundamentals of archive science at the higher school, and to choose the most effective methodical strategies for teaching archive science for students of universities. Systemic - structural approach also allowed us to unite within integrated teaching policy data of theoretical archive science, archiving history in Russia and a world history of archives.

The dialectic method has a great significance. It provides us an opportunity to track interdependence between the phenomena typical for the development of archiving at the level of archival establishment of the Russian Federation's subject and universal tendencies in archiving development.

Appliance of a general historical logical method allowed building of created technique in its continuity and sequence with internal logical connections between certain elements.

Key concepts: Key concepts of this research are: the international activity of Federal archival service of Russia, "Rossika", "Tatarika".

The international activity of archival establishments is the whole package of measures on identification and introduction of the archival documents concerning history of this or that country into scientific use.

"Rossika" is set of all foreign archival materials (including emigrant) related to Russia (Kozlov, 1999). Preservation and return of archival "Rossika" means not only concentration of the actions directed on physical return of original materials to Russia, but also the organization of copying of such materials, and copies' accession of the Russian archives for the purpose of replenishment of Archival fund of the Russian Federation. "Tatarika" is also a complex of documents, but related to the history of Tatarstan, arrived from archives of Russia, the neighboring countries and abroad.

The collection started being formed from copies of the documents which came to the Head archival department of the Tatarstan Republic since 1994 after acceptance of the Public archival service of Tatarstan in International Council of Archives (ICA) UNESCO.

RESULTS

Archival fund of Tatarstan and a package of measures for its replenishment. Normative framework

The international activity of Tatarstan archival establishments assumes forming of this work according to the all-Russian tendencies, standards, and rules. On the basis of the agreements between archival bodies of Russia's territorial subjects with foreign archival establishments archival funds of such subjects of Federation as Bashkortostan, Tatarstan, Karelia, Komi, etc. were replenished by copies of documents on the region's history (The National Archives, 2001). As for the Head archival department at the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan, during identification and return of documents on history of the Tatar people and Tatarstan it acted according not only to regulatory and procedural documents of Rosarkhiv, but also following the local Legislation concerning Archival fund of Tatarstan and archives. Identification and return of documents is made for the purpose of replenishment of Archival fund of the Tatarstan Republic. "Archival fund of Tatarstan Republic consists of the set of the documents reflecting material and spiritual life of its people, having historical, scientific, social, economic, political or cultural value, being an integral part of historical and cultural heritage of the people of Tatarstan and Russia" (Gorokhova, 2001). In the Tatarstan Archival fund's Regulation the structure of the state part of Archival fund is defined "... the archival funds and archival documents of legal entities and individuals which came legally to state ownership of Tatarstan, including from abroad; copies of archival documents as originals, and also the copies of archival documents which came legally to state ownership of the Republic of Tatarstan, including from abroad" (Gorokhova, 2001), i.e. the returned documents are described and are a part of the Republic of Tatarstan Archival fund. In the Charter of the Head archival department of the Republic of Tatarstan it is written down that: it carries out business connections with archival establishments of the States – participants of the CIS, and also foreign countries in accordance with the established procedure; participates in the work of the international organizations on archiving; organizes identification and acquisition of the archival documents located abroad which are of interest to Archival fund of the Republic of Tatarstan; in accordance with the established procedure carries out a mutually advantageous exchange of documentary information (Gorokhova, 2001).

Forms of work of Tatarstan archival establishments on identification and return of archival documents

The archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan was accepted to International Council of Archives (ICA) on category "A" (National archives). In the International Council of Archives there are five categories of membership: category A (national

authorities of management of archiving and national archives) the right to enter this category from the countries with the federal structure has the governing bodies or archives representing the republics, states, lands, provinces, etc. have the right to enter (the charter of ICA doesn't limit number of members from one country); category B (national associations and societies of archivists); category C (other archival establishments); category D (individual members) and category E (honorary members) (The National archives, 2001). In December 2000 on the basis of ICA's General assembly's decision one more international community — the Euroasian regional office of ICA — Evrazika was created. The head of Rosarkhiv V.P. Kozlov was elected as its chairman. The new organization included archivists of Russia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Ukraine, and as observers — Poland, Azerbaijan, Latvia. The Head Department of Archives at the Ministry Cabinet of the Republic of Tatarstan during the meeting of the public archival services' heads of the CIS countries in the city of Almaty took the initiative of Evrazika creation and submitted the application for the accession to the Euroasian division on category "A" (Gasyrlar avazy-Ekho vekov, 2004). Thus, acceptance of Tatarstan archival service in ICA (1994) and in Evrazika(2003), gave the chance to Tatarstan to participate in the congresses of General assembly of ICA, in annual conferences of "Round table" which was carried out by ICA, acquaintance with literature novelties on archiving. All this allowed archival service of Tatarstan to be aware of the current state of archiving at the international level. On October 6-7, 2015 in Kazan the XVI General conference of Euro-Asian regional office of the International council of archives (EVRAZIKA), a meeting of the Advisory board of heads of the public archival services of the State Parties of the CIS and the International scientific and practical conference "Actual Problems in the field of Use of Archival Documents" took place. Heads and ranking officers of the public archival services of Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Poland and Finland, ranking officers of the Cabinet of the Republic of Tatarstan took part in actions (Gafarova, 2015).

Signing of agreements by archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan in the field of the international cooperation and their realization

Archivists from Turkey became one of the first with whom contacts were made. In National archive of Tatarstan there was a document file, which had a direct connection both to Tatar - Turkish relations, and in a broader sense on policy of imperial Russia towards Muslims (The Turkish trace in archives of Tatarstan, 1998). In November, 1998 after the expiry of the first cooperation agreement the new contract between archival services of Tatarstan and Turkey for 1998 — 2001 was signed in Istanbul. Except signing of the contract, during the presence of Tatarstan delegation a great amount of work was done on study of Ottoman archive funds safety, study of laboratory work on reconstruction of old documents where modern

technologies and environmentally friendly materials are applied. Poland was the other state with which international relations of archival service of Tatarstan were carried out. In December, 1996 the head of the Main archival department of the Republic of Tatarstan D.R. Sharafutdinov came to Poland for signing the Cooperation agreement between General authority of the state archives of the Republic of Poland and the Head archival department of Tatarstan. The Head archival department at Cabinet of Ministers of Tatarstan attached great value to strengthening relationships in the field of archiving with subjects of the Russian Federation, first of all, with the neighboring regions as the history of their people is closely interconnected. Therefore in Kazan the Cooperation agreement between Committee of the Chuvash Republic for archives and the Main archival department under the Cabinet of Ministers of Tatarstan was signed (1998). In the next years similar cooperation agreements were signed with the Udmurt Republic (1998), the Republic of Bashkortostan, Mari El (1999), the Republic of Mordovia (2000).

Activities for identification and return of the archival documents on history of Tatarstan

Signing of the bilateral agreement on cooperation allowed archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan to become more actively engaged in identification and return of documents on stories of the Tatar people and Tatarstan, especially to realize the third activity in the sphere of the international relations. It allows to deepen the knowledge of history of Tatarstan. In the report of I. R. Tagirov, the academician from Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan, made on enlarged meeting of the board of the Head archival department of Tatarstan and board of historians' society — archivists of Tatarstan Republic in 1997, it was marked out that studying of history of the Tatar people was complicated because of insufficiency of sources, first of all written ones (Tagirov, 1997). Acceptance of archival service of Tatarstan in ICA in 1994, expanded opportunities for receiving documents on history of Tatarstan nations from foreign archives. For this purpose within National Tatarstan archive the department of identification and studying of documents of history of Tatarstan was created. Identification was carried out by studying of catalogs in National Tatarstan library, in the library of the Kazan state university, consultations with scientists of institute of history of Tatarstan Academy of Sciences, the Kazan state university etc. Archival service of Tatarstan dispatched letters in archives of the states of Europe and, first of all, the East with offers on identification, an exchange, a document transfer, concerning history of Tatarstan. During the performance of the signed agreement between archival services of Poland and Tatarstan by the Polish archivists the message of the khan Safa — Girey Kazanskyito the Polish king Sigismund I (1538 — 1545) and the Label of the khan Tokhtamysh to the Polish king and Grand duke Lithuanian Yagaylo (1392 — 1393) were donated to National Tatarstan archive. Both documents with comments of scientists are

published in the “Gasyrlar Avazy” – “Echo of Centuries” magazine (The message of the tsar of Kazan, 1997). At the beginning of the 2000th together with the Turkish colleagues a great amount of work was done on preparation for the edition of the catalog of the documents, transferred and returned to Tatarstan from the Turkish state and private archives, and documents transferred to the Turkish archival service by the archivists of Tatarstan (Sharafutdinov, 2003). As a result of cooperation between regional archives and Republics of the Russian Federation exchange of information was conducted, requirements and inquiries were fulfilled as possible. So, copies of documents were provided by the state archives of the Samara, Omsk, Nizhny Novgorod, Penza, Astrakhan areas, the Republic of Bashkortostan. Archives of the Post-Soviet Central Asian Republics also contain material not only about the relationship of Tatars with the related Turkic people, but also provide information on Tatar people (Tagirov, 1997). Therefore, the archival service of Tatarstan should continue its work in this direction. Today archivists of Tatarstan are ready to promote development of such type of tourism as genealogical tourism. It assumes providing of retrospective information for users from the Russian Federation, and from abroad, therefore involving a new array of archival documents into scientific development. At the moment with assistance of the Executive committee of the World congress of Tatars and representations of Tatarstan in regions of Russia and abroad, the compilation of database about compatriots outside the Republic of Tatarstan, whose personal archives represent historical, scientific and cultural interest, comes to the end.

DISCUSSIONS

The problem under our consideration was covered in a historiography generally in the historical periodical press and wasn't a subject of independent research yet. While writing this work articles from such magazines as - “National archives”, “The messenger of the archivist”, by “Gasyrlar avazy-Ekho of centuries” and also V.P. Kozlov's (1999), T. I. Horkhordina's and T.S. Volkova's (2012) researches were mainly used, where process of identification and return of the documents concerning Russia since XVIII century, i.e. history of formation of this direction in archive science is shown. Especially we would like to stop on the characteristic of such historical and documentary edition, as the Gasyrlar Avazy-Echo of the Centuries magazine, published by the Head Archival Department under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan. Publications in this edition played a big role in the treatment of the studied subject. Among articles published on its pages the greatest interest for us was represented by the following: first, I.R. Tagirov's (1997) report in which the directions of search of sources in history of the Tatar people are defined; secondly, the article “Archivists of Tatarstan: The international contacts” where D. R. Sharafutdinov (1998), the Head of the archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan in 1993 – 2005, mentions various aspects of the

international activity of archival service of Tatarstan; thirdly, the whole series of publications on a subject: “Tatarstan-Turkey: Archival cooperation” which reflects all sides of interaction between two archival services in 1990-2000, in particular the conclusion of agreements, an exchange of copies of documents, identification of new materials as a result of business trips of the Tatarstan archivists to Turkey (Ibragimov, 2011).

CONCLUSION

Thus, passing from the general to the special, we will note that in accordance with Peter I’s decree activities on collecting the data about Russia and its people from abroad began. Gradually work on identification and return of archival documents gained the systematized character. Today the purpose of this activity lies in replenishment of the Archival fund of the Russian Federation. There are several aspects of a problem of the foreign archival Rossika: informative, historical, legal, ethical, financial which show to what questions, it is necessary to pay the greatest attention. In 1990-2000 activities on identification and return of documents of archival Rossika differed from initial because it was based on standard – methodical foundation. The federal law “About archiving” contains the section according to which the international activity is carried out in the Russian Federation. At the regional level during 1990 – 2000 the Head archival department at the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan in its work, including international, acted in accordance with standard — methodical documents of Rosarkhiv, and the Legislation on Archival fund of the Republic of Tatarstan and archives. In 1994 archival service of Tatarstan was accepted in ICA and in 2003 — to Evrazik. It allowed archival service to participate in the international conferences, the congresses and forums where important issues in the field of archiving were resolved. Besides in 1990-2000 the conclusion of cooperation agreements between archival services of both – regions of the Russian Federation, and the countries of the neighboring and far abroad was included into the practice of archival service of Tatarstan. Agreements provided development of cooperation in archiving, ensuring mutual access to archival documents and reference materials, exchange of experience, information, publications, and also copies of archival documents. Experts of the Head archival department of Tatarstan defined the ways of search of documents: 1. studying of Tatarstan National Library’s and Kazan University Library’s catalogs, cooperation with scientists of history institute of Tatarstan Scientists Academy, the Kazan university, addressing letters to various archives with requests for identification and an exchange of archival documents. 2. comparison of catalogs on the basis of the returned archival documents and the edition of books. It suggests that these documents are introduced into scientific circulation. The returned archival materials open the new facts, confirm or disprove already known ones, and this allows us to reconstruct the past of the people of

Tatarstan most fully. We defined that opportunity and forms of their return to Russia depend on the type of the foreign storages concentrated “Rossika” and “Tatarika”. In 1990-2000 the authority of archival service of the Republic of Tatarstan increased and became stronger, and it worked successfully in all directions of the international activity, establishing close contacts with colleagues from different countries.

Recommendations

The article can be of a great interest to experts who are engaged in teaching of fundamentals of archive science at the higher school, in history of Russia of the latest period, and also for experts carrying out archival practice.

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