

## NAZIR TYURAKULOV - FIRST SOVIET DIPLOMAT IN SAUDI ARABIA

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**Abstract:** Article is devoted to public statesman Nazir Tyurakulov and his diplomatic activity. The ambassador, who has worked for 8 years in Saudi Arabia, promoted strengthening of Soviet-Arab political, economical and cultural ties. At the same time it should be noted its personal qualities, which contributed to the improvement of state-to-state relations between the USSR and Saudi Arabia. The cultural relations with the Arab countries at that period are considered as an example in diplomatic practice. The analysis of his social and political activity and creativity is given. Along with that, the recommendations for personalia of the individual are made. Nazir Tyurakulov is Kazakh, he was one of the first Soviet diplomats of that period, the personality who has left a mark with gold letters in domestic science. The research of life and activity of the famous sons of the nation, who havenot fairly become enemies of the people – is one of priority problems of history.

**Keywords:** Diplomacy, ambassador, policy, creative activity, Soviet, international relations, education, tradition, nation.

### INTRODUCTION

Nazir Tyurakulov is a prominent Soviet politician of the XX century, he is the first Soviet Kazakh ambassador in the Kingdom of Hejaz, Nejd and associated areas, currently Saudi Arabia. NazirTyurakulov has made a huge contribution to the development of international relations, he had marked with golden letters in history of the country. In this article we would like to pay attention to his personal qualities, which played an important role in the development of bilateral relations.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials and methods were works of Tair A. Mansurov, the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Russian Federation in 1994-2002 period. For eight years Tair Mansurov has managed to publish a series of books about his compatriot NazirTyurakulov.

Nazir Tyurakulov possessed the necessary qualities to work in the specific conditions of the Saudi society at that time. Personal affection of King Abdul Aziz Al Saud and his sons, along with a huge capacity for work, contributed to his debut in the diplomatic field.

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## RESULTS

Nazir Tyurakulov remained in the memory of the nation as an outstanding political and public figure, linguist and diplomat. Soviet Ambassador in Saudi Arabia, he was born in 1892 in Kokand, where his family moved from Southern Kazakhstan - for economic reasons. He graduated from the Kokand commercial college, in 1914-1916 he studied at the Faculty of Economics of the Moscow commercial institute. In the political life of the multinational Turkestan Republic, NazirTyurakulov occupied one of the main places. Among the first representatives of local nationalities, he was elected as the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkestan, headed the CEC of the Turkestan Republic, the People's commissariat for education. At the origins of the opening of the Kazakh higher education institution in Tashkent, there was also our compatriot - NazirTyurakulov (Naumkin, 1988: 8).

While in high positions, he took many decisions, not only on political but also on cultural issues. He combined an acquisition of human values and respect to them with the traditions of his nation. As chairman of the Turkestan CEC, he decided to postpone the day off from Sunday to Friday, by the way, Nazira's mother was a very religious woman.

In 1922-1926 Nazir Tyurakulov worked in Moscow, headed the Central publishing house of the USSR peoples, engaged in scientific and pedagogical work. He has lectured at the Communist university of toilers of the East, some time was a vice-rector of this institution. In 1928, at the age of 36 years old, he was appointed as an authorized representative of the USSR in the Kingdom of Hejaz, Nejd and associated areas (now Saudi Arabia) (Vasilyev 2010: 108-109). In diplomatic practice of those years it was rare that such a responsible position was occupied by person of that age. Two years later he became the first Kazakh Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the USSR in the present Saudi Arabia. Be the Soviet ambassador in the country, which surprised the world not only with oil reserves, but also with spiritual wealth - it was very responsible. Even the ambassador election itself for this country was a manifestation of the policy. His Muslim origins, abilities and level of education, as well as the fact that he got a Muslim education and worked at the Turkestan autonomy, have been taken into account. Convergence of states are largely dependent on skilled policy of ambassadors. NazirTyurakulov was highly-qualified diplomat. In a short time, the plenipotentiary envoy not only perfectly mastered the Arabic language, which enabled him to do during the negotiations without an interpreter, but also studied the culture and folklore of peoples inhabiting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Having economics NazirTyurakulov actively involved in building the young country, which then was reflected in his efforts to strengthen culture and regional economy and the convergence of the USSR with Saudi Arabia (Gusterin, 2011: 3).

The activity of NazirTyurakulov as the ambassador showed his exceptional managerial abilities. In 1932, he brilliantly prepared and conducted ten-day visit to the USSR of the heir of the King of Saudi Arabia Prince Faisal, who at that moment of acquaintance with the ambassador was 13 years old. The result of the visit of 17 years old successor Prince Faisal was improvement of trade and economic and other relations. He also contributed to the strengthening of friendly relations with Afghanistan, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Jordan. We would like to emphasize that Tyurakulov is a philologist not only on paper, but also in practice. The entire diplomatic corps for active participation in patterns of life and thoughts and customs of the country respected him for his personal qualities. During his trip to Soviet Russia, Prince Faisal was accompanied by such high-ranking officials, as Kliment Voroshilov, a member of the Politburo of the CPSU (b). Guests visited plants and factories, pioneer camps, listened to the opera "The Barber of Seville" at the Bolshoi theater, and also visited the football match of the famous "Dynamo". The retinue of Saudi prince also visited Leningrad. During the visit to "Krasnayazarya" telephone equipment factory, Prince Faisal has got a present - private branch exchange (PBX), which at that time was a technical novelty.

Later, with the assistance of NazirTyurakulov, the PBX has been successfully involved in the royal representative office of Abdul Aziz Al Saud. Engineers of the Leningrad plant, at the invitation of NazirTyurakulov, have installed the PBX (Gusterin, 2015: 76).

In the Kingdom of Hejaz, Nejd and the associated areas our ambassador has become the dean, so he was able to sidestep our British rivals in this regard. At a reception in honor of Emir, he merited a place on the right of Prince Faisal that did not raise any objections. In his letter to the People's commissar for Foreign Affairs Litvinov, On April 16, 1930, Nazir said: "The historic dispute with the British because of the seniority in the diplomatic corps is considered finished in our favor... At official ceremonies I occupy the first place, and Ryan - the second, French charge d'affaires - Monsieur Maigret - the third, Ainol-Mulk - the fourth. Note that Ryan keeps towards me quite correctly, turning to me, in some cases as a sergeant". Working in a Muslim country, Tyurakulov knew the intricacies of the Arab East. He always adhered to the canons of Islam, considered large and small Hajj as prerequisite of religion. He was so well aware of the subtleties of the Arab countries that met certain conditions when offering of gifts. He has repeatedly stressed that he could not give arms and alcohol, and requested to give him inexpensive gifts in the form of penknives, tissues and watches (Mansurov, 2014: 22-29).

He also took an active part in the commission of the Soviet people of the pilgrimage to Mecca. Thus, explaining that this humane action would have a beneficial effect on the fact that many accuse the USSR in the oppression of Islam. In his letters to the People's commissariat, he offered to guide students in Saudi

Arabia for language training at the Institute of Oriental studies, explaining that the common acquisition of the Arabic language is not enough to work in such specific terms. In his letter he pointed out that our country trains specialists that can express themselves only with otherworld, knowing the Arabic language in this country is not able to buy the elementary box of matches.

His excellent knowledge of religious matters was reflected every day. In communicating with local experts, he relentlessly pursued a parallel with the "Russian Muslims". They must first restore their economy, and only then think about religion, as prescribed by the Prophet. Meanwhile, our diplomat from 1928 to 1936 had a tough row to hoe. He has worked in the most difficult climatic conditions. However, Nazir Tyurakulov was courageous and steady, honorably fulfilling his diplomatic mission. All of his stay in this hot country, the lack of professional medical care, the risk of exotic diseases, as well as the lack of water and food, without certain convenience, Tyurakulov steadfastly and courageously defended the mission (Mansurov, Syzdykov 2000: 541-548).

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In early 1936, according to the People's commissariat of Foreign Affairs, he was recalled to Moscow. About a year, he worked as a senior fellow at the Institute of Language and Literature at the Council of Nationalities of the CEC of the USSR. Another interesting fact is that from December 1935 to June 1936, Tyurakulov was listed in the personnel reserve of the People's commissariat of Foreign Affairs, and from June 1936 to January 1937 - in the reserve of the Central Committee of the CPSU (b). At a difficult time on his expense, the senior management had other plans (Mansurov, 2003: 10-14).

In his country for the support provided by Nazir Tyurakulov to Alash members - Alikhan Bukeikhanov, Akhmet Baitursynov, Magzhan Zhumabayev, he was accused of covering up the nationalists. Indeed, Nazir Tyurakulov well was counted among the leaders of the Alash national liberation movement, who immeasurably did much for the Kazakh people's independence at the beginning of the last century.

In 1937, he was repressed. After that, the King of Saudi Arabia has made it clear that he does not want to see the ambassadors of the Soviet Union in his own country. This proves the high respect and sorrow because of what happened to his friend Nasir. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were restored only in 90-ies of the XX century (Naumkin 1978: 58-60).

On January 28, 1958, he was rehabilitated. In 2001, the famous diplomat TairMansurov published a book “Arabian epic of envoy NazirTyurakulov”.

He was one of the most educated men of his time, could speak Kazakh, Uzbek, Russian, Tatar, Turkish, German, French. In such a short period of time, he learned the Arabic language, thus completely abandoned later the entrusted to him interpreter. His words stand out in our mind to this day: “And the one talking, the other is converted, salt is lost”.

He was so good at the Arabic language, that the performance in front of local and theological discussion, it was commonplace. Due to the high erudition and personal positive qualities of our diplomat, Family of King Abdul Aziz Al-Saud deeply respected the envoy. TheKingevencalledNazirTyurakulovasbrother (Naumkin 1997: 276).

As the first Soviet diplomat in the Arabian Peninsula, he represented abroad not only the power of the Soviet state, but also high intellectual culture of the Soviet man. His service will remain in history as an example of high diplomacy. During the negotiations, he did without an interpreter and for the time strongly engaged in the study of culture and life of the peoples who lived on the territory of the Kingdom of Hejaz, Nejd and the associated areas (Naumkin 2008: 189-197). Obviously, speaking eight languages NazirTyurakulov is one of the creators of Soviet diplomacy in the East. His huge work, done for the benefit of the Soviet state, has to be duly appreciated.

We must pay tribute to the personnel policy of the country of that period, which chose NazirTyurakulov as Arabian ambassador to the country. In this selection, his spiritual and secular education played an important role, as well as his personal qualities of a diplomat (RSAPSH). It’s just a little of that tribute and worship that he and his companions in misfortune deserve, who for a short time of their lives have done so much for the prosperity of the country, which so cruelly savaged with them.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we would like to mention about multi-vector, socio-political and creative activity of Nazir Tyurakulov, particularly about his role in diplomacy. Currently in world politics, the Islamic factor came on leading place. In international relations, conflict resolution happens through the prism of historical knowledge. Nazir Tyurakulov established close ties between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, and his activities require exclusivity in the study. In particular, such a historical figure like NazirTyurakulov and his heritage played an important role in the development of foreign policy of independent Kazakhstan.

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