

## Chapter 1 : The Strange State of Soviet Central Asia | Alicia Patterson Foundation

*Soviet Central Asia refers to the section of Central Asia formerly controlled by the Soviet Union, as well as the time period of Soviet administration (). Central Asian SSRs declared independence in*

Turkic tribal peoples and their herds moved into the region, driving the people already there farther south into Afghanistan or Iran. And Islam replaced Buddhism and other religions, including Nestorian Christianity. In the 19th century it was the Russians who entered Central Asia. This included military expeditions in 1813 around the same time that people in the U.S. Central Asia was relatively sparse in population. The settlers confiscated grazing lands and aroused the animosity of local people. The Russian army defended Russian settlers from attacks by the local people, who had little more than a few antiquated firearms with which to drive the settlers away. Map of Central Asia in the year 1864. The palace of a Russian prince in Tashkent. The Russians left the conquered non-Russians to their customs but began taxing them. The Russians began growing cotton in Central Asia to fill the market for cotton lost during the US Civil War, and they began encouraging local people to settle into agriculture. From Central Asia, Russia received cotton and other raw materials, and it sent into Central Asia manufactured goods, vodka and by accident syphilis. Merchants took control of land and then leased it back to the Central Asians. From 1864 to almost 1917. In the 1910s the Russians were fighting the Great War for their Eastern Orthodox fatherland, and they tried drafting the Muslims of Central Asia into their military. The Muslims rebelled, and the Russians turned their artillery against Muslim villages, killing tens of thousands. The Turkic Muslims responded by attacking Russian settlers, killing indiscriminately. A Russian military force drove them into the mountains and into China. In some of the 1910s the Russians slaughtered many of the 80, or so who returned. Muslims developed a guerrilla force, led by Dzhunaid Khan, and hoped to reclaim their land. In November 1917 the Bolsheviks rose to power in Russia. Russian settlers in the cities of Kazan today a part of Russia and Tashkent joined the revolution by establishing the soviets councils in whose name the Bolsheviks had taken power. The Bolsheviks were ideologically opposed to empire, and their leader, Lenin, stuck to his orthodoxy and issued an appeal to "all Muslim workers of Russia and the East. Some allowed themselves to be drafted into the Red Army but soon fled with their weapons to the Muslim guerrilla resistance movement - the so called Basmachi. By the summer of 1918, the Basmachi gained popular backing in the Fergana Valley, a traditional bastion of conservative Islam. The Basmachi spread as far west as the Caspian Sea, while settled peoples failed to join their cause. In Russia, the Bolsheviks defeated their civil war opponents, and they had some success against the Basmachi, who were weakened by internal discord. Special detachments of the Red Army masqueraded as Basmachi and cut supplies to the Basmachi from the British and Turks. Support for the Basmachi from abroad dwindled from fear of their Pan-Islamist ideology. The Bolshevik government in Moscow appealed to the hearts and minds of the peoples of Central Asia with grants of food, promises of land reform and tax relief. The Bolsheviks put on a show of respect for Muslim customs. They returned to the Muslims sacred books and objects that Russians had looted during tsarist times. In keeping with Muslim tradition, Friday was recognized as a day of rest. A parallel Islamic court system was allowed to administer sharia law - while stoning and the cutting off of hands were forbidden. Basmachi appeal diminished, and the Red Army with the help of volunteer Muslim peasants drove the Basmachi eastwards. A few Basmachi decided to hide in the mountains and resort to terrorist acts, hostage taking and sabotage, and they were looked upon by others as criminals rather than heroes. Some Central Asians joined the Communist Party and acquired local positions of leadership. In Moscow, Bolshevik leaders divided Central Asia south of Kazakhstan as best that the bureaucracy knew how, but imperfectly, into three republics. Each republic was to be part of the Soviet Union, and in theory the different republics and ethnicities that made up the Soviet Union were to have equal representation in the political life of that union. The Bolsheviks were devoted to economic development, culture for common people and education. The Bolsheviks made education free and available for all, including the peoples of Central Asia, except for their "class enemies. The Arabic alphabet was changed to the Cyrillic script common to the Slavic people. The Bolsheviks had no choice but to leave Central Asians to their herding and nomadic lifestyle. In a campaign for secularism in Central Asia, mosques, churches and synagogues were

closed. There was a move to overrule traditions regarding women " somewhat similar to what was taking place in Turkey. Child marriage, forced marriage and polygamy were banned. A campaign against the veil began, and Soviet authorities pushed for bringing women out of seclusion purdah and providing them an opportunity for employment outside the home and participation in politics. Sharia courts were banned. Private property was seized. In Central Asia, as well as in Russia, Soviet authorities resorted to brutal punishments against resistance. In the Central Asian republics Communists were executed along with others in numbers said to be in the thousands. And in Kazakhstan became a Soviet Socialist Republic. Between and the Kazakh population declined by 22 percent due to starvation, violence and emigration. Throughout Central Asia, however, the Soviets remained dominant. Russians Central Asia,

*The image of Stalin sitting in the Kremlin with a giant pencil, malevolently drawing lines on the map of Central Asia to ensure that the region would remain unstable if it ever found itself outside the Soviet Union, seems to be ineradicable.*

Oct 8, by Asya Pereltsvaig [This post was originally published in May ] An earlier post on Chechnya mentioned that the Chechens were deported from their homeland in the North Caucasus to Central Asia in February But for Stalin, such a Soviet identity could not emerge fast enough to suit his purposes. First, the need for cheap labor to explore and exploit the natural resources of Siberia and to speed up Soviet industrialization program meant that increasing numbers of people had to be sent wherever those economic needs arose. It appears that by resettling whole populations in Siberia, Central Asia, and the Far North, Stalin was also clearing out much of the Western border zone, presumably in preparation for an offensive against Nazi Germany. Although the thesis that Stalin was poised to invade Nazi-controlled territories in July is highly controversial among historians , it is significant that most ethnic groups deported prior to June 22, as discussed in more detail below came from the border zone stretching from Karelia in the north to the Black Sea in the south. In later years, the Nazi invasion of the USSR provided another excuse for the continuing process of ethnic cleansing. Although the Soviet propaganda machine attempted to sugar-coat the bitter truths, justifying the mass deportation on the basis of resistance to Soviet rule, separatism, and collaboration with the German occupation forces, most Soviet citizens could see through the lies. Most of the mass deportation occurred in s and s, when numerous ethnic groups were removed from their historical homelands. Between and alone, no less than nine nationalities were deported: According to the data reported in Wheatcroft In addition to the groups listed above, displaced ethnic groups include Romanians, Caucasus Greeks, Karakalpaks, Koreans, and others. Altogether it is estimated that nearly 3. Among the first to be deported on ethnic grounds were the Poles from Belarus, Ukraine, and European Russia, who were ousted in the early s. As Soviet policies turned to outright eradication of Polish national identity in the late s, both of these autonomous regions were abolished; their populations were subsequently deported to Kazakhstan in From to, nearly 1. Estimates of the number of Poles who died at the hands of the Soviets range from , to nearly a million. The same fate awaited Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. Men were generally imprisoned and most of them died in Siberian prison camps. Women and children were resettled in Kirov, Tomsk, Omsk, and Novosibirsk Oblast, as well as Krasnoyarsk and Altai Krai; about a half of them are estimated to have survived. While portrayed as part of the collectivization program, this operation targeted anti-Soviet nationalists, supporters and kin of the Forest Brothers anti-Soviet partisan fighters , veterans who had served in the German military, and relatives of those already held in the Soviet Gulag for alleged anti-Soviet activities Strods and Kott As elsewhere, masses of ethnic Russians and members of other ethnic groups were resettled to take their places. In Lithuania, the situation was not as extreme. Although many Lithuanians were deported, the corresponding Russians resettlement effort was focused on former East Prussia now Kaliningrad District which, contrary to the original plans, never became part of Lithuania Misiunas and Taagepera Partly as a result of these policies, strong anti-Soviet and anti-Russian sentiment became especially widespread in the Baltic republics, which subsequently became the first parts of the Soviet Union to break away. Anti-Russian feelings are still evident in the region, reflected, for example, in the extremely divisive recent referendum of whether to make Russian a co-official language of Latvia. Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina, formerly part of Romania, were also occupied and annexed by the Soviet Union in It bears highlighting that these Romanians were not simply shifted from one location to another, but were taken from one of the most climatically mild and agriculturally favorable locations in the Soviet Union and resettled in some of its most inhospitable areas, noted for their bitterly cold winters, poor soils, and meager infrastructure. After the German invasion commenced on June 22, , another massive wave of deportations from Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina occurred, only to be followed by additional expulsions in and Estimates of the total number of ethnic Romanian deportees range from , to , Their deportation was conceived in , initiated in , and carried through in , Koreans were among the first nationalities to undergo mass expulsion Pohl Almost the entire Soviet

population of ethnic Koreans, over 200,000 people, were forcefully moved to unpopulated areas of Kazakhstan in October 1951. Considering the general level of animosity between the Koreans and the Japanese, the very idea seems absurd. Other ethnic groups were deported in the later stages of WWII as a form of collective punishment. Although treasonous collaboration with the invading Germans and anti-Soviet rebellion were again the official justifications, only a small proportion of these ethnic populations served in German battalions or otherwise collaborated with the Nazis. The deportations of uprooted entire ethnic groups, nearly 2 million people in total. Among them were Volga Germans and several non-Slavic nationalities of the Crimea and the northern Caucasus: Effectively, the whole Black Sea coastal region was cleared of ethnic minorities. After demobilization, the men were arrested and sent into exile. They remained all night on the threshing floor. Later on, several Stuedebaker trucks drove in and everyone was ordered to board them. People were authorized to take only the bare minimum with them. Before leaving the house my father had grabbed a few books and his personal notes. That was what he valued most. Red Army Helicopters were sent in, ostensibly to save the Yaghnobis from an avalanche threat, but the abandoned kishlaks villages were razed to prevent any attempted return. In the process, a sizable trove of religious books, some as old as years, were destroyed. The Yaghnobi ethnicity was officially abolished by the Soviet State, and no longer appears as a separate category in Russian censuses. However, it was not until as late as that the Crimean Tatars, Meskhetian Turks, and Volga Germans were allowed to return en masse to their original settlement areas. But several of these, including the Volga Germans and Greeks, generally preferred to abandon the Soviet Union and later Russia for their original homelands. The deportations had a profound effect on the non-Russian peoples of the Soviet Union, and the collective memory of the deportations has played an important role in the separatist movements in Chechnya and the Baltic republics. While all of the above-mentioned groups deserve a closer look, the several Languages of the World posts focus on the Finns and Karelians, the Koreans, and the Volga Germans. Boobbyer, Philip *The Stalin Era. The Power of Freedom. Central and Eastern Europe after* Centre for European Studies. Leiden *Journal of International Law* *The Journal of Modern History* 70 4: *The Years of Dependence*, University of California Press. *Journal of Genocide Research* 2 2: *Soviet Genocide and Mass Murder Since* A Re-Assessment of the Mass Deportations of *Journal of Baltic Studies* 33 1: *Europe-Asia Studies* 48 8: Please pass it on:

*In Central Asia, as well as in Russia, Soviet authorities resorted to brutal punishments against resistance. And as in Russia, in Central Asia there were purges within the Communist Party. In the Central Asian republics Communists were executed along with others in numbers said to be in the thousands.*

The influx of immigrants mostly Russians and Ukrainians , but also some forcibly resettled ethnic minorities, such as the Volga Germans and the Chechens skewed the ethnic mixture and enabled non- Kazakhs to outnumber natives. The influx also deprived the Kazakhs of much pasture land, making it increasingly difficult to sustain the nomadic way of life. Industry, and especially mining, developed. Russian and European culture began to influence Kazakh society. Almaty is the largest city in Kazakhstan , with a population of 1,, as of 1 August The city was put under siege during the Russian Civil War. It has a population of , It is the capital of the West Kazakhstan Province. Today it is the independent state of Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia. Frunze was both the capital and the largest city of Kyrgyzstan and the Kirghiz ASSR, with a population of approximately , in In , the Russian Empire destroyed the local fort and began to settle the area with Russian migrants. Over the years many fertile black soil farms were developed by the Tsarists and, later, the process carried on by the USSR. In Tajikistan was detached from Uzbekistan and given full status as a Soviet socialist republic. The city of Dushanbe would become an important regional hub on the border with Afghanistan. Tajikistan has 3 exclaves , all of them located in the Fergana Valley region where Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet. Another exclave in Kyrgyzstan is a small settlement near the Kyrgyz railway station of Kairagach. There are no foreign enclaves within Tajikistan. The Soviets transformed the area into a centre for cotton and silk production, and relocated tens of thousands of people to the city from around the Soviet Union. The population also increased with thousands of ethnic Tajiks migrating to Tajikistan following the transfer of Bukhara and Samarkand to the Uzbek SSR. Dushanbe later became the home to a university and the Tajik Academy of Sciences. Dushanbe also had a relatively high military population during the war with Afghanistan. Today it is the independent state of Turkmenistan in Central Asia. From it was led by Mr Saparmurat Niyazov , who in renamed the party to the Democratic Party of Turkmenistan , which is no longer a communist party. The current Communist Party of Turkmenistan is illegal. The principal industries are cotton textiles and metal working. It has interesting Regional Museum and lies near the remains of the ancient city of Merv, which in corrupted form gives its name to the modern town. Carpets from the region of Merv are sometimes considered superior to the Persian ones. The city of Tashkent began to industrialize in the s and s, but industry increased tremendously during World War II , with the relocation of factories from western Russia to preserve the Soviet industrial capacity from the hostile invading Nazis. The Russian population increased dramatically as well, with evacuees from the war zones increasing the population to well over a million. The Russian community would eventually comprise more than half of the total residents of Tashkent by the s. On April 26, , Tashkent was destroyed by an earthquake and over , were left homeless. At the time of the collapse of the Soviet Union in , Tashkent was the fourth largest Soviet city and a major center of learning in the fields of science and engineering. The city has been the target of several terrorist acts since gaining independence. These have been attributed by the Uzbek the government to Islamic insurgents aided by the Afghan Taliban. Samarkand is one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world, prospering from its location on the trade route between China and Europe Silk Road. In , Timur the Lame, or Tamerlane , decided to make Samarkand the capital of his empire, which extended from India to Turkey. The city a became rich trading center as a major capital of the Silk Road between China and the West. It has a population of , bu It is at an altitude of meters. Kokand is on the crossroads of the ancient trade routes, at the junction of two main routes into the Fergana Valley, one leading northwest over the mountains to Tashkent, and the other west through Khujand. As a result, Kokand is the main transportation junction in the Fergana Valley. Russian imperial forces under Mikhail Skobelev captured the city in which then became part of Russian Turkistan. With the fall of the Russian Empire , a provisional government attempted to maintain control in Tashkent. It was quickly overthrown and local Muslim opposition crushed. The Alash Autonomy[ edit ] Main article: It was declared in

and was dissolved in The Alash Autonomy Kazakh: , Alashskaya avtonomiya was a state that existed between December 13, and August 26, , located roughly on the territory of present-day Republic of Kazakhstan. The capital city was Semey referred to at the time as Alash-qala. The Alash Orda Kazakh: The Alash Party proclaimed the autonomy of the Kazakh people in December Membership consists from 25 members 10 positions reserved for non-Kazakhs and 15 member candidates. They formed special educational commission and established militia regiments as their armed forces. The borders of the Russian imperial territories of Kiva , Bukhara and Kokand in the time period of " Basmachi Revolt In , the railway reached Tashkent , and finally in a direct rail link with European Russia was opened across the steppe from Orenburg to Tashkent. This led to much larger numbers of Slavic settlers flowing into Turkestan than had hitherto been the case, and their settlement was overseen by a specially created Migration Department in St. This caused considerable discontent amongst the local population, Kyrgyz , Kazakhs and Sarts , as these settlers took scarce land and water resources away from them. In discontent boiled over in the Basmachi Revolt , sparked by a decree conscripting the natives into Labour battalions they had previously been exempt from military service. Thousands of settlers were killed, and this was matched by Russian reprisals, particularly against the nomadic population. The competition for land and water which ensued between the Kazakhs and the newcomers caused great resentment against colonial rule during the final years of Tsarist Russia, with the most serious uprising, the Central Asian Revolt , occurring in The Kazakhs attacked Russian and Cossack villages, killing indiscriminately. A military force drove , Kazakhs to flee into the mountains or to China. When approximately 80, of them returned the next year, many of them were slaughtered by Tsarist forces. Order had not really been restored by the time the February Revolution took place in Kengir uprising During the rule of Joseph Stalin, a prison labour camp of the Steplag division of the Gulag was set up adjacent to the village of Kengir , near the River Kengir in central Kazakhstan. The location of the camp was near the city of Dzhezkazgan. There was a prison revolt in , by political prisoners , criminals , and other inmates. Bukhari and Turkistani were labels for all the Uzbeks in general while specific names for Uzbeks from different places were Farghani, Marghilani, Namangani, and Kokandi. That attracted a lot of mountaineers into the area. Oil was found in Uzbekistan and both oil and gas were found in Turkmenistan. These fuel supplies would prove invaluable to the region over the coming years. Some of the sediments are marine carbonates and clays. The faults are upthrusts and overthrusts. Anticlines associated with these faults form traps for petroleum and natural gas , which has been discovered in 52 small fields. It is a major oil - and gas-producing region. Over the years a large influx of Russian and Ukrainian oil and chemical workers arrived. Engineers discovered large amounts of crude oil and petroleum in the area in the days of the Soviet Union , and when drilling commenced, much of the area was built up around the industry. From to Aktau, which had become a city, bore the name "Shevchenko" in honour of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko " , who had been assigned to the area on military[ citation needed ] work. Aktau had a population of , as of [update]. Soviet infrastructure in Central Asia Much of the road and railway infrastructure that exists across Central Asia was developed when the areas was in the Soviet Union. As a result, it often disregards existing national borders. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, this infrastructure has faced decline and degradation. Vanadium and cobalt were, and still are also mined in the south of the country. Uranium was also first produced in Uzbekistan in the s. The city of Zhezkazgan was created in in connection with the exploitation of the rich local copper deposits. In a large mining and metallurgical complex was constructed to the southeast to smelt the copper that until then had been sent elsewhere for processing. Other metal ores mined and processed locally are manganese , iron and gold. It is on a reservoir of the Kara-Kengir River and has a population of 90, census. Its urban area includes the neighbouring mining town of Satpayev , total population , Dzhezkazgan has an extreme continental climate. Cement[ edit ] Cement was a major product in both the cities of Shymkent and Dushanbe in the south of the region. Hydro-electricity[ edit ] By the early s, the Soviets had started to build some of their hydroelectric power stations in Eastern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tadjikistan as part of an overall development strategy. The waters of the Ili River and of Lake Balkhash are considered to be of a vital economic importance to Kazakhstan. The Ili river is dammed for hydroelectric power at Kaptchagayskoye , and the river waters are heavily diverted for agricultural irrigation and for industrial purposes. Cotton[ edit ] The Soviets began to

grow cotton in Uzbekistan after the Virgin Lands project and the mass use of the isolated and now shrinking Aral Sea for desert irrigation in the early s. A massive expansion of irrigation canals during the Soviet period, to irrigate cotton fields, wrought ecological carnage to the area, with the river drying up long before reaching the Aral Sea which, as a result, has shrunk to a small remnant of its former size. The Baikonur Cosmodrome[ edit ] The Baikonur Cosmodrome was founded in Kazakhstan on June 2, , during the Cold War , as one of many long-range nuclear missile bases in the region, but diverged into space travel. Culture, religion and ethnicity[ edit ] The Ethnic and linguistic patchwork of Soviet Central Asia Following a series of migrations, mostly predating Soviet rule, that displaced the autochthonous Iranian peoples , most of the inhabitants of Soviet Central Asia were speakers of either Kipchak languages such as Kazakhs or Uyghuric languages Uzbeks. Those populations were nomadic and settled, respectively.

### Chapter 4 : How did Stalin draw the map of Central Asia? - Publications - Kazakhstan History

*"Stalin's Giant Pencil: Debunking a Myth about Central Asia's Borders" - is an attempt of professor A. Morrison to dispel a myth about Stalin's impact on formation of nation-states in Central Asia in years of XX century.*

And so on throughout the region like dominoes just ready to bloodily fall into each other across the vast landscape. Osh is just five kilometers from the Uzbek border—Uzbek nationalists claim it; Kyrgyz nationalists vow to die defending it one of many ethnic powder kegs in Central Asia. A mish-mash of old enmities persists. Krokodil is the latest drug craze from Mother Russia, cheaper and much stronger than heroin—Poison, simple as that. Krokodil gets its name from the way your skin turns green and scaly where you inject, as infection and gangrene set in. His favorite bar about the only one he can drink in without being shot is the Kulturny: The door swung outwards. With it came an unholy reek of piss, fried pelmeni dumplings and stale beer. Steroid-built muscles coiled and wriggled down arms bare in spite of the cold. A ripped T-shirt and greasy camo pants. And this is where Inspector Borubaev drinks when he wants to unwind from the shittiness of the Bishkek streets!! Palmer is a writer adept at setting novels in political hotspots, having previously written about Darfur, Pakistan and Sarajevo. Crime lords, corrupt officials, and the drug trade all meet in the Tashkent bazaars as an American, thinking he can duck out on his bad debts back home, becomes enmeshed in the Uzbek underworld. Murray got seriously on the wrong side of the autocratic Islam Karimov administration when he alleged that information on Islamic terrorism in the region given to the C. It was and neither Washington nor Tashkent cared for that fact to be aired. Whatever the truth, it is the case that Murray knew the dark side of Uzbek politics and society better than most other foreigners. Corruption of Power by G. But who can you trust? And when it comes to ruthlessness, even the Russian gangs admit to being lightweight in comparison. And, once again, we run into an old problem with this column—identifying locally written crime fiction. In Central Asia there is little tradition of crime writing, thanks to governments that are not overly happy about attention being drawn to their links to organized crime, internal corruption or abysmal human rights records. Writing contemporary crime novels is a hazardous occupation for writers living in these countries. So far nothing has made it into translation. Ismailov was born in Kyrgyzstan, but grew up mostly over the border in Uzbekistan. In prison Qodiriy reconstructs the novel he was working on before being arrested, a nineteenth-century tale of the tragic life of the Uzbek poet-queen Oyxon and the British Great Game spies who swarmed around the city of Bukhara, most of whom were in real life again summarily beheaded when captured.

### Chapter 5 : My Childhood In The Gulag - A Horrible Memory Of Stalin's Prison Camps - Tsarizm

*The way I took the challenge was that instead of Stalingrad, the last stand of Stalin and his troops would be somewhere in Central Asia - the Soviets would still control Siberia and possibly even some parts of European Russia.*

Svetlana Tynybekova, 78, in her apartment in Astana, Kazakhstan. All photos by Joanna Lillis. Svetlana Tynybekova was born in , on the tail-end of a tidal wave of terror that ripped through the Soviet Union, sweeping up her family with it. Her grandfather, a Kazakh intellectual and a former minister in the Soviet government of Central Asia, had been shot as an enemy of the people. Her grandmother was languishing in the Gulag. She was 16 [when her father was arrested]. He would, in the wake of the Russian Revolution, mature into a model Soviet citizen. Khodzhanov imbibed his revolutionary ideas in Tashkent, where he attended teacher-training college and joined a radical underground student movement that was pushing for political change in the dying days of Tsarist rule. Before and after the Bolshevik seizure of power, Khodzhanov associated with prominent Central Asian intellectuals, including the Kazakh Mustafa Shokay, who espoused the ideals of pan-Turkism, a movement that sought a political union of all the Turkic peoples. Shokay fled to Turkey after a bid to establish an autonomous Central Asian government – popularly called the Turkestan or Kokand Autonomy – was routed by Bolshevik troops in . Photo by Joanna Lillis. In , Khodzhanov was posted to Kazakhstan. But his career in the higher echelons of regional Soviet officialdom did not last long. These included Khodzhanov, who argued passionately against them, according to his granddaughter. Khodzhanov was sent away, first to Moscow then back to Tashkent to continue his Communist Party work in less prominent roles. Unbowed, he continued to champion the Kazakh cause. Nearly a century later, the colonial question remains a sore point. Annual commemorations of the Stalin-era repressions notwithstanding, critics point out that Kazakhstan – which is still ruled by its last Soviet-era leader, Nursultan Nazarbayev, 27 years after independence – has never had a frank debate about the legacy or lessons of its totalitarian past. Khodzhanov was arrested at his home in Tashkent one morning in amid protestations that he was loyal to the party and the revolution. Ziba and one brother were taken in by relatives in Alma-Ata, which had by then been anointed capital of Soviet Kazakhstan. She eventually managed to complete her secondary education and embark on a history degree, but was thrown out of the university when it emerged whose daughter she was. Khodzhanova spent eight years as a slave laborer in Karlag, before being banished into exile in southern Kazakhstan for three years. She then moved to Alma-Ata to live with Ziba and her family, which was when Tynybekova finally got to know her grandmother.

### Chapter 6 : Stalin's master play in Korea was aimed at dividing China | Asia Times

*Curative Powers: Medicine and Empire in Stalin's Central Asia (Russian and East European Studies) [Paula Michaels] on blog.quintoapp.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Finalist, PEN Center USA Literary Awards, Research Nonfiction Rich in oil and strategically located between Russia and China.*

Chuvashia Despite the general policy of granting national territories to all ethnic groups, several nationalities remained without their own territories in the s and the s. These included Poles, Bulgarians, Greeks, Hungarians, Gypsies, Uigurs, Koreans, and Gagauz today the Gagauz live in a compact area in the south of Moldova, where they enjoy a measure of autonomy. The peoples of the North had neither autonomous republics nor autonomous oblasts, but since the s they have been organized in 10 national okrugs , such as the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, the Koryak Autonomous Okrug, the Nenets Autonomous Okrug, and others. In some cases this policy required voluntary or forced resettlement in both directions to create a compact population. The Soviet government was particularly concerned about the loyalty of the Finnish, Polish, and German populations. However, in July the Soviet authorities felt secure enough and in order to project Soviet influence outwards, exploiting cross-border ethnic ties, granted national minorities in the border regions more privileges and national rights than those in the central regions. After the Communists took power in and created the Soviet Union it was decided to divide Central Asia into ethnically-based republics in a process known as National Territorial Delimitation or NTD. The NTD is commonly portrayed as being nothing more than a cynical exercise in divide and rule , a deliberately Machiavellian attempt by Stalin to maintain Soviet hegemony over the region by artificially dividing its inhabitants into separate nations and with borders deliberately drawn so as to leave minorities within each state. Additionally the Soviets never intended for these borders to become international frontiers. Soviet Central Asia in before national delimitation NTD of the area along ethnic lines had been proposed as early as For a more detailed look at the creation of specific boundaries, see individual pages e. Tajikistan-Uzbekistan border , Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan border etc. National delimitation in Central Asia Nation-building for ethnic minorities[ edit ] In the s and the s, the policy of national delimitation, which assigned national territories to ethnic groups and nationalities, was followed by nation-building, attempting to create a full range of national institutions within each national territory. Each officially recognized ethnic minority, however small, was granted its own national territory where it enjoyed a certain degree of autonomy, in addition to national elites. This was always accompanied by native-language press and books written in the native language. National elites were encouraged to develop and take over the leading administrative and Party positions, sometimes in proportions exceeding the proportion of the native population. This task relied on the existing work of tsarist-era ethnographers and statisticians, as well as new research conducted under Soviet auspices. Because most people did not know what is meant by a nation, some of them simply gave names when asked about ethnic group. Many groups were thought to be biologically similar, but culturally distinct. In Central Asia, many identified their "nation" as "Muslim. Principally, however, dialects or languages formed the basis for distinguishing between various nations. The results were often contradictory and confusing. More than nations were counted in Central Asia alone. Some were quickly subordinated to others, with communities which had hitherto been counted as "nations" now deemed to be simply tribes. As a result, the number of nations shrunk over the decades.

### Chapter 7 : Deportation of Minorities – Seventeen Moments in Soviet History

*Stalin, as a strong power figure, used the military to centralize control. The result was a world power that had a major impact in World War II and carried over through the cold war. The.*

Many in the West believed, for decades, that the war was a sub-component of a global communist conspiracy aiming at world domination that had to be resisted. That thesis shifted somewhat in the 1950s when an analysis that the conflict was a civil war that spiraled out of control rose to prominence. The dailyReport Must-reads from across Asia - directly to your inbox Now, another causative factor has been proposed: The Soviet dictator wanted to pin Beijing down in a major ground war in order to prevent Chinese reunification. A new view of the Korean War: As an author, his previous works include a biography of North Korea regime insider Jang Song-taek, the uncle Kim Jong-un famously executed in 1997. It had been the key loci of the Russo-Japanese War. However, when Mao seized control of mainland China in 1949, he refused to honor the agreement. This angered Stalin, who was, moreover, looking at a larger strategic chessboard. He sought to play Mao and Chiang off against one another, so preventing the unification of a China that could have challenged the USSR for leadership of the global communist movement. If China was united, Stalin had reason to fear a strong country in the same camp. World War I made clear that war between major powers was a horrifically costly form of policy. World War II and nuclear weapons made war between superpowers impossible. Kim pleaded with Stalin in a series of telegrams for two years before Stalin finally relented, offering offensive weapons and strategic planning. But while Pyongyang became an enthusiastic pawn of Moscow – Kim was given clearance for a war he was keen to fight – Beijing was not party to the decision. Stalin gambled on a victory for Kim or, in the case of a defeat, an intervention by Mao. Stalin was not sure until very late that Mao would intervene in the war, and he was ready to give up Kim Il-sung. Stalin was playing a big game. Stalin had nothing to lose! Mao understood that he would have been on the defensive, if a fight with the imperialists was inevitable. Ignored warning signals, he ordered his motorized columns north to the Yalu River. Awaiting them in the freezing high country was a mighty Chinese ambush. Thereafter, Stalin – who only deployed jet fighters in China and anti-aircraft units and military advisors in North Korea, all in great secrecy – continued to fight the Korean War to the last drop of blood shed by Chinese and North Korean foot soldiers. A critical period was summer 1951. None of the bloodied combatants was willing to risk a major strategic move. Mao and Kim wanted to end the killing, but Stalin ordered it to continue. The result was two years of largely static combat against a backdrop of tortuous, long-drawn negotiations at Kaesong and Panmunjom. The free world had no idea that the negotiations were being held in bad faith. Kim, the father of the war, was almost completely sidelined; his country was pulverized from the air for two more years. An armistice was signed on July 27, 1953. China could legitimately claim to have fought the US to a standstill, sparking a virile new national pride, which resounds to this day. For the first time in her history, America had been unable to prevail in war. The key combatants – the two Koreas – remained bitterly divided.

### Chapter 8 : 'There Was No Water, No Food' -- Chechens Remember Horror Of Deportations

*Stalin's Ethnic Deportations and the Gerrymandered Ethnic Map. Oct 8, by Asya Pereltsvaig [This post was originally published in May ] An earlier post on Chechnya mentioned that the Chechens were deported from their homeland in the North Caucasus to Central Asia in February*

Exiles were sent to remote areas of the Soviet Union: There are few who are still alive from the exiles. Mirian Gurashvili, 79, a survivor of the Soviet terror recounts a horrific story of his childhood. It is very hard to even remember, says Mirian Gurashvili, who was exiled in Siberia in with his mother and two minor sisters at the age of three. Mirian Gurashvili spoke about how his mother was hiding the body for three days until someone on the ship snitched about it, after which, the captain threw the body in the Caspian Sea, without even letting the family members say a word. After the first tragedy, the family of a single mother and two minor kids had to survive a terrific five years in Siberia. Mirian Gurashvili during the expatriation was three years old; he lost all his toes because of the unbearable Siberian cold. The Georgian man reminisced that during a single day, for the exiles, the Soviets would give watery soup and 3. To survive, they themselves obtained potatoes from the frozen land. Some of them died on the ships and in the trains before even reaching the camps. After returning home, apart from close relatives, everybody oppressed and rejected his family. Nothing was left from his home, not even a trace of a house. As he says, everything was taken by the collective. They were oppressing and mistreating us just because our family was exiled by the Soviet government. I was an excellent student in class, but I could not continue my studying after the school, because no one accepted me since my family was expatriated. Mirian Gurashvili worked for four years in Soviet Naval Aviation, though his rejection continued after he came back from the military. As he recalls, no one gave him a job. After the repressions, he is now living in Bodbe, with his wife, three children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild. He is engaged in agricultural activities. According to different sources, during the Stalin era, more than 5 million people were exiled for different reasons, and part of them were executed.

**Chapter 9 : Stalin deported chechens to central Asia**

*History of Central Asia: History of Central Asia, history of the area from prehistoric and ancient times to the present. In its historical application the term Central Asia designates an area that is considerably larger than the heartland of the Asian continent.*

However, the years immediately preceding the revolution had been marked by sporadic Turkmen uprisings against Russian rule, most prominently the anti-tsarist revolt of that swept through the whole of Turkestan. The Communists succeeded in taking control of Ashkhabad in the summer of . In response, Dzhunaid Khan and forces loyal to the old Russian regime joined together to drive out the Communists. In July of , these anti-Communist allies established the independent state of Transcaspia. By the fall of , however, the Communist Red Army was advancing from Tashkent in modern Uzbekistan and from Bukhara. The Communists gradually subdued Turkmenistan by military occupation and by putting Communist politicians in control of local governments. Private property was seized, and the Soviet government used brutal methods to punish opposition. These policies sparked a rebellion in Turkmenistan, and in the Soviets lost control of the republic to a national resistance movement called the Turkmen Freedom [in Turkmenistan]. Their armed resistance to Soviet rule was part of the larger Basmachi Rebellion [ Basmachi is Russian for bandit, a term later applied in Afghanistan] throughout Central Asia from the s into the early s. After the terror of the s, the Communist regime in Ashkhabad became completely obedient to the central Soviet government in Moscow. Meanwhile, another international conflict was brewing in Europe. Fierce fighting destroyed factories, farms, and cities throughout western Russia and Ukraine. After the war, the Soviets built new plants in central Asian cities, including Ashkhabad and Chardzhou modern Turkmenabat. A work force made up of ethnic Russians and ethnic Ukrainians emigrated to the Turkmen SSR to take advantage of new jobs in the republic. By some accounts, most Turkmen remained rural and nomadic. By other accounts, during the forced collectivization and other extreme socioeconomic changes of the first decades of Soviet rule, pastoral nomadism ceased to be an economic alternative in Turkmenistan, and by the late s the majority of Turkmen had become sedentary. Foreigners, and even Soviet citizens, were forbidden to visit most of the region, and the Soviet government also would not allow most Turkmen to travel out side the republic. New irrigation projects diverted water from rivers to collective farms, many of which began growing fruits and vegetables instead of cotton. Efforts by the Soviet state to undermine the traditional Turkmen way of life resulted in significant changes in familial and political relationships, religious and cultural observances, and intellectual developments. Significant numbers of Russians and other Slavs, as well as groups from various nationalities mainly from the Caucasus, migrated to urban areas. Beginning in the s, Moscow kept the republic under firm control. Slavs, both in Moscow and Turkmenistan, closely supervised the national cadre of government officials and bureaucrats; generally, the Turkmen leadership staunchly supported Soviet policies. Moscow initiated nearly all political activity in the republic, and, except for a corruption scandal in the mids, Turkmenistan remained a quiet Soviet republic. The Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev instituted several new policies after coming to power in Perestroika eased government control over many small businesses, which could now set their own wages, prices, and production schedules. Turkmen Communist leaders, however, were slow to adopt these reforms. The republic found itself rather unprepared for the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the independence that followed in . In the late s, many Soviet republics attempted to gain their independence from Moscow. By a unanimous vote of its Supreme Soviet, Turkmenistan declared its sovereignty in August . The Turkmen SSR declared that it would take greater control over local politics and economic policy. The government established the office of president and named Saparmurat Niyazov to the post. The official result of the referendum was 94 percent in favor of independence.