

## RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE SOVIET POLITICAL ELITE IN KABARDA

O.A. ZHANSITOV

Institute for the Humanitarian Researches –  
branch of the FSBSE «Federal Scientific Center  
«Kabardino-Balkarian Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences»  
360000, KBR, Nalchik, Pushkin street, 18  
E-mail: kbigi@mail.ru

*The article deals with the formation of the Soviet political elite in Kabarda during the Russian revolution. Two channels of co-optation of Kabardins into the Soviet power structures are revealed. The first is represented by people from the local peasant environment, who showed themselves in the social protests in the Nalchik district of the early twentieth century. The second is represented by prominent figures of the Kabardin clergy. The role of the external factor of involvement in the political process of the “lower classes” is analyzed. It is associated with the actions of the Bolsheviks to form a strong social base and a loyal administrative layer as a necessary condition for the development of the revolutionary movement in the regions.*

**Keywords:** revolution, political elite, Kabarda, Bolsheviks, clergy, Soviet power.

### REFERENCES

1. Krasovitskaia T.Yu. *Etnicheskie elity mezhdju krasnymi i belymi: etnokul'turnye idealy VS internatsionalizma i «nepredreshchenchestva»* [Ethnic elites between reds and whites: ethnocultural ideals vs internationalism and “indecision”] // *Rossiia v gody grazhdanskoi voiny, 1917-1922 gg.: ocherki istorii i istoriografii* [Russia during the Civil War, 1917-1922: essays on history and historiography]. Moscow; St. Petersburg: Tsentr gumanitarnykh initsiativ,/ Center of Humanitarian Initiatives. 2018, 608 p.
2. Mamsirov Kh.B. *Problemy stanovleniya sovetskoi administrativno-politicheskoi elity v natsional'nykh avtonomiakh Severnogo Kavkaza v 1920-kh gg.* [Problems of the Formation of the Soviet Administrative-Political Elite in the National Autonomies of the North Caucasus in the 1920 s.] // *Izvestiia Samarskogo nauchnogo tsentra Rossiiskoi akademii nauk* [Bulletin of the Samara Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences]. 2010. Vol. 12. № 6. Pp. 70-76.
3. Karpov Yu.Yu. *Natsional'naia politika sovetskogo gosudarstva na severokavkazskoi periferii v 20-30-e gody XX veka: evoliutsiia problem i reshenii* [The national policy of the Soviet state on the North Caucasian periphery in the 20-30s of the XX century: the evolution of problems and solutions]. St. Petersburg: “Peterburgskoe Vostokovedenie” Publishing House”, 2017, 400 p.
4. Karpov Yu.Yu. *Sovetizatsiia 1920-kh gg. na mestakh: vzaimodeistvie gosudarstvennykh i obshchestvennykh institutov* [Sovietization of the 1920s. in the localities: interaction of state and public institutions] // Platon. 2014. № 4. Pp. 15-18.
5. Bugai N.F., Mekulov D.Kh. *Narody i vlast': «sotsialisticheskii eksperiment»* [Peoples and power: «socialist experiment »]. Maikop: Meoty, 1994, 424 p.
6. Khlynina T.P., Krinko E.F. *Istoriya, politika i natsiestroitel'stvo na Severnom Kavkaze* [History, politics and nation-building in the North Caucasus]. Rostov-on-Don: Southern Scientific Center of RAS Publishing House, 2014. 434 p.
7. Gutieva M.A. *Formirovanie sovetskoi politicheskoi elity v respublikakh Severnogo Kavkaza v 1920-1930-e gg.* [Formation of the Soviet political elite in the republics of the North Caucasus in the 1920s-1930s.] // *Vlast' i obshchestvo v Rossii v XIX-XX vv.: sb. nauchnykh trudov* [Power and society in Russia in the XIX – XX centuries: collection of scientific works]. Moscow: Moscow Region State University, 2010. Pp. 16-19.

8. Uligov U.A. *Sotsialisticheskaiia revoliutsiia i grazhdanskaia voina v Kabarde i Balkarii i sozdanie natsional'noi gosudarstvennosti kabardinskogo i balkarskogo narodov (1917-1937 gg.)* [Socialist revolution and civil war in Kabarda and Balkaria and the creation of the national statehood of the Kabardin and Balkarian peoples (1917-1937)]. Nalchik: El'brus, 1979, 356 p.
9. Kazharov V.Kh. *Gosudarstvenno-politicheskaiia traditsiia v istorii kabardintsev* [State and political tradition in the history of the Kabardians] // Borov A.Kh., Dumanov Kh.M., Kazharov V.Kh. *Sovremennaia gosudarstvennost' Kabardino-Balkarii: istoki, puti stanovleniia, problemy* [Modern statehood of Kabardino-Balkaria: origins, ways of formation, problems]. Nalchik: El'-Fa, 1999. 184 p.
10. Zhansitov O.A. *Mezhoslovnye otnoshenia v Kabarde v kontekste revoliutsionnykh protsessov* [Inter-estate relations in Kabarda in the context of revolutionary processes]. Nalchik: Izdatel'skii otdel KBIGI RAN/Kabardin-Balkar Institute of Humanitarian Research of RAS Publishing house, 2014, 67 p.
11. *Organy gosudarstvennoi bezopasnosti i obshchestvo. Kabardino-Balkaria 1920-1992* [State security agencies and society. Kabardino-Balkaria 1920-1992]. Nalchik: El'-Fa, 2007. 376 p.
12. *Arkhiv Instituta gumanitarnykh issledovanii Kabardino-Balkarskogo nauchnogo tsentra RAN* [Archive of the Institute for Humanitarian Researches of the Kabardino-Balkarian Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences].
13. Chkheidze K.A. *Strana Prometeia* [Land of Prometheus]. Nalchik: Poligrafervis i T., 2004, 264 p.
14. Iskhakov S.M. *Rossiiskie musul'mane i revoliutsiia (vesna 1917-go – leto 1918 g.)* [Russian Muslims and the Revolution (spring 1917 – summer 1918)]. Moscow: Izdatel'stvo «Sotsial'no-politicheskaiia mysl'» / "Social-political Thought" Publishing house, 2004, 600 p.
15. Tekueva M.A. *Islamskoe dvizhenie v Kabarde i Balkarii vo vremia Grazhdanskoi voiny na Terek* [Islamic movement in Kabarda and Balkaria during the Civil War on the Terek] // *Islam i politika na Severnom Kavkaze. Sbornik nauchnykh statei* [Islam and politics in the North Caucasus. Collection of scientific articles.]. Edition. 1. Rostov-on-Don, 2001.

**Information about the author:**

**Zhansitov Osman Aslanovich**, Candidate of Historical Sciences, Senior researcher of the Department of Modern History of Institute for the Humanitarian Researches – Branch of the Federal State Budgetary Scientific Establishment “Federal Scientific Center “Kabardin-Balkar Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences”.  
360000, KBR, Nalchik, Pushkin street, 18.  
E-mail: osman.zhansitov@yandex.ru