On the issue of scientific research of rural youth of Yakutia 1970-1980-s

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Abstract. The article discusses the history of the study of rural youth in Yakutia in the 70-80s. XX century through a historiographic review of scientific works on the youth problem. During the period under review, the role of rural youth increased, she began to actively participate in the socio-economic processes taking place in the countryside, and represented a significant share and the main resource of labor replenishment for the agricultural sector of the economy.

In studies of the 70s - early 80s, emphasis was placed on the social aspects of scientific and technological progress, the impact of industrialization and intensification of agricultural production on the social structure of the rural population, and the improvement of its professional, cultural and technical level.

Since the mid-1980s, research has begun to raise many complex problems related to rural lifestyles, and especially on such important changes as rural life, spiritual and material needs and needs of various population groups, in particular rural youth, factors and prospects of youth movement between the village and the city.

It was established that scientific research allowed to expand scientific ideas about the rural youth of Yakutia, its social dynamics, determining its place and role in society.

1 Introduction

Youth is always in the focus of research in various social sciences, since the future of society itself depends on youth. Modern youth studies affect both biological and physiological characteristics [1], as well as the characteristics of rural youth and their culture [2], including various occurrences of deviant behavior among young people, such as violence [3], smoking [4], alcoholism and drug addiction [5]. The publications highlight various youth assistance programs [6,7,8]. Of interest are also works related to the study of the political participation of youth [9] and the process of political socialization of youth in society [10].

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The most important aspect of the relevance of the chosen topic is determined by large-scale changes in the life of the rural population of Yakutia in the twentieth century. Modernization transformations that took place in the country in the 70s and 80s. The twentieth century, and in particular Yakutia, qualitatively changed the living conditions of the villagers.

During the period under review, the role of rural youth increased, she began to actively participate in the socio-economic processes taking place in the countryside in the 1970s and 1980s, and represented a significant share and the main resource of labor replenishment for the agricultural sector of the economy. Young people aged 16 to 29 made up 20% of the total rural population of the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics). In the study period, the proportion of working youth in the total number of agricultural workers was 30.5%, and among farm workers 25% were under 30 years old. Every third farm worker in the Yakut ASSR (Yakut Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic) was a young man. It was established that out of the total number of workers of state farms of the republic, 8.3 thousand were graduates of secondary schools and only 0.9 thousand had secondary specialized education, since there was a vowel among the youth: “School-production-university” whose main goal, was the retention of young people in the villages. The scientific understanding of changes in the life of rural youth in Yakutia in the 70-80s of the twentieth century, in our opinion, is one of the least studied areas in the development of the social and humanitarian sciences.

2 Formulation of the problem

The task is to study the historical experience of scientific research of rural youth of The Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) as a special socio-demographic group of the population in the process of socio-economic transformation of the 70-80s. Twentieth century.

3 Research methods

In the study of the topic applied historical, statistical, historical-systemic, historical-typological methods and the method of historical and cultural reconstruction. Their use, along with the system analysis method, made it possible to more fully reveal various approaches to the study of rural youth in Yakutia during the period of social and ethnocultural processes in the 70s and 80s. XX century The authors in the course of their work relied on the principles of objectivity, historicism and systematic character in the studied range of problems, a comparative analysis of phenomena, facts and documents. The main research method was chosen as a system analysis using quantitative and qualitative methods for collecting and processing information. The theoretical and methodological basis of the study was the research of Russian and Yakut scientists in the field of rural sociology.

4 Early studies of rural youth in Yakutia

General analysis of the available literature on the problems of rural youth in Yakutia in the 1970s and 1980s. shows that Yakut scientists examined the main social characteristics of rural youth of the republic, as well as trends in the development of the Yakut village, in particular, socio-demographic changes in the composition of the rural population of the republic, the study of the mechanism of the impact of agro-industrial integration on the social structure of the village as a whole, on the social appearance of young workers agriculture in particular, identifying their place in the structure of agricultural workers,
changes in the nature and content of their labor, a holistic analysis of social image of the main groups of agricultural workers, the problems of its improvement in the light of the tasks of the social reconstruction of the village[11].

In studies of the 70s - early 80s, emphasis was placed on the social aspects of scientific and technological progress, the impact of industrialization and intensification of agricultural production on the social structure of the rural population, and the improvement of its professional, cultural and technical level.

A diverse approach to the problem of rural youth is characterized by scientific works devoted to the analysis of the social structure of the village in the 70s and 80s, changes in the number and composition of the rural population that make up its social groups. They examine the national and demographic aspects of rural social development. At the same time, it should be noted that in these and other studies many of the complex problems of the 70-80s related to the rural way of life in general, and especially on such important changes as rural life, spiritual and material needs and needs, are not revealed different groups of the population, in particular rural youth, factors and prospects for the movement of youth between the village and the city, poorly illuminated problems of convergence of living standards of urban and rural population.

Interesting empirical information on the development of agriculture in Yakutia in the second half of the twentieth century. contained the collective work “Yakut ASSR in the conditions of developed socialism”, which sets out the general results of the development of agricultural production for 1959 - 1975. [12]. Also of interest is a monograph by N.N. Tikhonov "Socio-economic problems of the Yakut village" [13].

Of great importance for the study of youth of Yakutia of the 70-80s. present the works of Yakut sociologists of the Institute of Language, Literature and History of the Yakutsk Department of the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, who, using sociological research methods from the second half of the 70s, began to deal with the social problems of rural youth. They revealed the characteristics of the youth of Yakutia, its professional and value orientations and attitudes toward work, socio-political activity and moral and aesthetic consciousness. The results of these works were published in the form of two collections “Rural Youth of Yakutia” [14], as well as in the articles of I. A. Argunov [15], which allow us to outline the social portrait of youth villages of Yakutia in the late 70s. The monograph of I.A. Argunov “Social development of the Yakut people” and “Social sphere of lifestyle in the Yakut ASSR” [16,17].

It is noted that during this period, significant changes took place in the life of the village, the intensification and industrialization of agricultural production, the well-being of rural workers increased. This led to a change in the value orientations of young people, the leading motive for the life plans of the overwhelming majority of rural youth was not material well-being, but the desire to get an interesting profession and vocation work. This led to a mismatch between the desire of young people to choose an interesting profession and the possibility of their provision in state farm production. State farms of the Yakut ASSR in those days could not provide interesting and fascinating work, because they still had heavy manual labor. Existing work on state farms did not particularly require highly qualified personnel, because they were mainly occupied by graduates of secondary schools who did not have a vocational education or who were unable to enter specialized educational institutions. This led to the fact that young people employed in hard work in the countryside had an inferiority complex and a feeling of frustration.

However, the peculiarity of agricultural production, the slow introduction of mechanization in traditional occupations has left its mark in the vocational qualification groups of workers. In the villages there was still a large part of the workers who were not related to working in cars. These were mainly representatives of traditional professions: hunters, shepherds and fishermen. In order to attract young men and women to traditional
sectors of the national economy, in particular, to reindeer husbandry in the Arctic regions of Yakutia, the movement “Reindeer husbandry is in the hands of young people” was created in the early 1970s [18].

In the Soviet period, work was carried out to improve the production and living conditions of hunters, reindeer herders and fishermen. They were equipped with portable power stations and radios; helicopters and airplanes were involved for their transportation, as well as for the delivery of goods and mail. Much attention was paid to ensuring and improving their life and leisure, so agitation tents were sent to gathering points with a concert of amateur groups, mobile shops, temporary baths were created, etc. But, nevertheless, the nature of the work of reindeer herders and hunters did not undergo significant technical changes.

The transition in a historically short time to a work fundamentally new in content also determined the specifics of the evolution of relations to it, the transformation of the old and the assimilation of new values. Previously, the work of a hunter, a reindeer herder was of an individual nature, which was determined and regulated by the worker himself. The types of occupations, in addition to reindeer husbandry, were episodic and seasonal, and, accordingly, labor regulation was associated with natural conditions and, therefore, there was no clear differentiation of working and free time.

The conservation of the traditional type of occupation did not suit young people who had learned the fruits of technological progress. The generation of young people of the 70-80s did not see any prospects in the usual work of a reindeer herder, hunter or fisherman, and accordingly looked for other types of occupations that would stimulate their subsequent growth, which shows the desire of the youth of those years for development and self-realization.

As noted by Kuzmina R.A. in his study, that a significant part of the rural working youth is not satisfied with the nature of their labor, the level of mechanization of state farm production, it seeks to master industrial professions and equipment. Work on the production adaptation of young workers at state farms is not at the proper level. In many cases, yesterday’s tenth graders, not prepared for a particular profession and performing tedious, monotonous manual labor, are lost to the general mass of workers, fall out of the public eye. As a result, many young men and women view their work at the state farm as a temporary, forced work. On this basis, such undesirable phenomena as indifference, negligence, civic passivity, and sometimes immorality appear [19].

The work of Vasiliev N.V. is important for the study, in which value orientations, social and professional mobility and life plans of Even and Evenk youth of Yakutia in the considered period in various spheres of life are considered and factors influencing their formation are determined [20].

However, the specifics of production, the slow introduction of mechanization in traditional occupations left their mark on the vocational qualification groups of manual workers. In the villages, the proportion of workers unrelated to working on machinery was still high (among Evenks — 76.1%, Evens — 78.0%). These were mainly representatives of traditional occupations of reindeer herders and fishermen. If the work of the fisherman in the summer was to some extent connected with the use of motor boats, the work of the reindeer herder and hunter still remained non-mechanized, which is essentially explained by the specifics of performing these types of work.

5 Second Wave Research

In the mid-80s. One of the most important tasks of the state was the problem of the vocational guidance of young people, primarily students of secondary schools; the task was to attract rural youth to work in industrial enterprises of the republic. In this regard, I would
like to note the collection "Vocational education of youth in the Yakut ASSR "[21]. In which Yakut scholars discuss the issues of social and vocational orientation of schoolchildren in Yakutia to working professions, the problem of training for the branches of the national economy of the Yakut ASSR, early professional orientation to the traditional types of activities of the peoples of the Far North, etc.

In a number of works of the 80s. the nature of ethnosocial processes taking place in rural settlements of Yakutia is analyzed: the socio-demographic structure, the dynamics of professional movements, the level of socio-political activity, the lifestyle of the villagers, in this regard, the works of L.I. Vinokurova [22]. Features of the value attitude of the rural population, including youth, are present in the works of U.A. Vinokurova [23]. Socio-cultural and ethnic processes in Central Yakutia, including the problems of youth are reflected in the works of D.G. Bragin [24].

Since the 90s. sociocultural changes that occurred in the Yakut village village of the republic in the 70-80s are attracting more and more attention of Yakut scientists. XX century Of great importance for the study is the dissertation by Ivanova N.P. “Rural youth of Yakutia” (mid 60s – 70s)”[25], in which, based on the study, analysis and generalization of concrete historical material, N.P. Ivanova The basic social characteristics of rural youth of the republic are considered. Based on the data of the All-Union Population Censuses of 1959, 1970, 1979, the place of youth in the structure of the rural population was determined - in gender and age, social-class and social-professional relations. Ivanova N.P. makes a conclusion about the uneven growth in the number of rural youth, traces the experience of state and public organizations in introducing young agricultural workers to technical creativity, rationalization and invention, to production management through the bodies of the Komsomol movement and the People’s Control.

The Yakut ASSR belonged to regions of the country with an intensively growing population. According to the 1970 census, there were more than 664 thousand people, that is, 2.5 times more than in 1917, 1.6 times more than in 1939 and 1.4 times more than in 1959. During the period between the last censuses, the population of the Yakut ASSR increased by 36.6%, or by 177 thousand people. For comparison, recall that over these 11 years the population of the USSR increased by 16%, the population of the RSFSR (Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic) - by 11%.

Intensive population growth in the Yakut ASSR was accompanied by an increase in the proportion of young people (16-29 years old) in the age structure of the population.

As you know, the proportion of young people aged 16 to 29 years in the Yakut Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic in all years was significantly higher than in the country and the Russian Federation. This is due to the comparatively high birth rate among the local population and the significant proportion of youth among migrants arriving from other regions of the country. But Yakutia did not escape the general pattern of reducing the proportion of youth in the population. If from 1959 to 1970 the proportion of youth in the USSR decreased by 5.5%, in the RSFSR - by 5.3, then in the Yakut ASSR this reduction amounted to 5%.

In the period between the two censuses, there is a significant increase in the absolute number of urban youth in the country. The number of young people aged 15 to 29 in the cities of the whole country increased by 6 million people, in the RSFSR - by 3.1 million people. And this was mainly due to the outflow to rural cities of youth, the number of which decreased in the USSR by 8 million, in the RSFSR - by 5 million.

A somewhat different situation has developed in the Yakut ASSR. Here, with a significant increase in urban youth, the absolute number of rural youth remained at the same level. In this regard, the decrease in the proportion of rural youth in the entire population of the republic was not as sharp as the national average and the RSFSR. If over 11 years the proportion of rural youth fell in the USSR by 5.2%, in the RSFSR - by 4.9,
then in the Yakut ASSR - by 3.2%. However, this did not mean at all that in Yakutia there was no outflow of rural youth to the cities. The stabilization of the absolute number of rural youth in Yakutia occurred due to the younger age group (from 15 to 19 years).

In recent times, the works of researchers devoted to various aspects in the life of the rural population of Yakutia has appeared, in them you can find information about young people. In the works of such authors: S.I. Boyakova [26], N.D. Vasilieva [27], L.I. Vinokurova [28], the development trends of the Yakut village, in particular, socio-demographic changes in the composition of the rural population of the republic, the study of the mechanism of the impact of agro-industrial integration on the social structure of the village as a whole, on the social appearance, were examined agricultural workers in particular, identifying their place in the structure of agricultural workers, changes in the nature and content of their labor, a holistic analysis of the social appearance of the main groups of agricultural workers, the problems of their labor improvement in the light of the tasks of social reconstruction of the village.

6 Conclusion

Over the years of Soviet power, the life of the peoples of the Far North has radically changed. Changes affected all aspects of their life, including traditional types of labor. One of the main problems of these traditional sectors of the economy was the lack of personnel. In connection with the implementation of the policy of transition from a nomadic to a sedentary lifestyle, the former nomadic family turned out to be divided, and with it, two half of the young people interested in each other were separated.

Socio-economic processes that occurred in the period 1970-1980-ies. in the Arctic and northern regions of Yakutia expressed, firstly, the extreme conditions of agriculture and the difficulties of creating social infrastructure in the countryside, secondly, the intensification of industrial development of the bowels of the republic, thirdly, the absence of direct, directly interested relations between industrial and rural areas, fourthly, in the fact that mainly indigenous people lived in the countryside: the Yakuts and other peoples of the North. Such traditional resettlement of the population on a national basis created additional difficulties in the effective implementation of social justice, improving national relations and social well-being in the republic.

The reality was such that with the integrated development of the republic’s subsoil wealth, the pace of industrial development and the implementation of the housing program in cities and industrial settlements, there was no rapprochement, but, on the contrary, social differences in the sphere of work and life, and the lifestyle of the indigenous people living in rural areas were aggravated areas, and residents of cities and towns of industrial regions of the republic.

A review of the available literature allows us to conclude that the rural youth of Yakutia in the 70-80s. The twentieth century has still not been properly reflected in the scientific literature and has not become the object of deep, comprehensive research. A general analysis of the available literature on rural youth in the 1970s and 1980s. shows that scientists of the republic highlighted only certain economic and socio-cultural aspects of the topic we are studying. At the same time, aspects of the historical plan of this problem are poorly or almost unexplored, many issues of rural youth’s vital activity are bypassed. What makes an overdue scientific task the creation of a comprehensive scientific study devoted to the analysis of changes in the life of rural youth in the Arctic regions of Yakutia in the 70-80s.

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