

Guryev city (Atyrau) in the period of Stalingrad battle

The Great Patriotic War was a big challenge not only for the Soviet system, but also for all people. Common spiritual space contributed to the inclusion, but there were no reasons to talk about any moral-political unity of the Soviet society on the eve of war.

Famine, total repression of the 30s has left a heavy mark in the lives of millions of people. Secular way of living was destroyed. About two millions of Kazakh people died of starvation in the result of forced collectivization. Hundreds of thousands of Kazakh nomads were on a foreign land. Driven by famine, poverty, thousands of Kazakhs found refuges in Central Asia, in the Urals, in Siberia. The fascist aggression that hit the country has united people. The communion of historical destinies, fidelity to the land and despite decorativeness of the republics, the awareness of the threat to lose national statehood were manifested in it. The rise of the national consciousness together with a national patriotism amid the sincere faith of the vast majority of population in unbreakable brotherhood of the Soviet people was the fact, that helped the heads of the state at the crucial moment to conscribe and integrate the necessary human resource to ensure the victory. Kazakhstan and its people were not an exception.

On July 17, 1942 Stalingrad battle that lasted for 200 days and nights began and ended with the largest victory of the Red Army.

On September 15, 1942 Wes Kazakhstan region entered martial law and Uralsk city was included to the front line. Construction of six defensive lines began.

Guryev region and Guryev city acquired a special significance from the first days of the war. On the one hand, Guryev connected Kazakhstan with the frontal districts and front, on the other hand evacuated industrial enterprises and population from the front line were transferred to Kazakhstan through Guryev. During Stalingrad battle, aircrafts participating in military commitments arrived for

fuel to Guryev region. The territory of Guryev region was considered as frontal area. The Nazis were burst to get down to the objects and petroleum storage tanks there. Despite the fact, that the front line remained far away enemy's bombs, raiding forces were thrown on the territory of the region and fighters of the Red Army died from wounds and diseases, for example in 1942-1944 the following hospitals worked in Guryev: №2967 in the Palace of the Pioneers, № 4116 in Recovery center of oil workers, № 4038 at Kuibyshev school, № 3941 in the cannery plant, № 1383 at petroleum secondary technical school; 9318 people were under the treatment, 93 of them died of severe wounds.

On August 14, 1942 471-infantry artillery battalion arrived to Guryev to defend the railway bridge through the Ural. The Soviet Command believed that the Nazis will be interested in this strategic object and they will try to destroy it.

On September 10, 1942 at 15:30 the first enemy aircraft appeared. "Junkers-88" dropped nickels in the district of fish cannery plant and village Zhumysker.

During Stalingrad battle workers of the city and region sent 25 wagons of gifts, including 1800722 kilograms of products to the fighters of the Red Army. The workers, clerisy of Guryev fish cannery plant of Ural-Caspian state of fish trust deposited 612 thousand rubles in bonds of state loans from their personal savings to the fund of Chief command, to the fund of the Victory of Red Army. On April 1, 1942 workers of the city contributed 1680000 rubles to the defense fund. Providing huge financial assistance to the front, workers of the city suffered from lack of food and necessary things. Demolition of the rural way of life accelerated in the villages. The impact of the negative factors of the social sphere on the human strengthened in terms of war. The Great Patriotic War diverting resources of the sustenance and sharply limiting the consumption of most people led to the immense tension of all spiritual and physical strength. These issues made people to work and live to the point of exhaustion, that had a negative impact on demographic processes.

The Second World War forced to the world by German fascism was the hardest of all wars ever passed through by humanity. Primarily, the attempt of the Nazis to impose the world community by force and realize the theory of "adequate" and

“inadequate” races and people. The Soviet people defended their freedom and independence paying a terrible price – more than 27 millions of lives. Despite all the difficulties, the victory became possible as a result of great unity of the army and people, a big organizational activity of All-union Communist party and all authorities, heroism of soldiers and war workers. This glory for centuries, joy and pride, tears and the bitterness of loss, a vow to remember the fallen in the battle. The victory is the banner that unites all people of the Earth. Kazakhstan with its inexhaustible natural resources made a worthy contribution to this Victory, that allowed it to become one of the most important arsenals of the front.