

## Russian Falsification of Muslim History

Falsification of the history of occupied or colonized Islamic peoples is a common practice of colonial states, including Russia. This is done by destroying or banning reliable sources of history and creating fake ones.

One of the monstrous falsifications of the history of the Caucasian war is the film "Amanat", the message of which is the senselessness of the resistance of the Caucasian Muslims to the Russian invaders during the Caucasian war, and the benefit for them in submission and acceptance of the Russian occupation authorities. All this is richly seasoned with artistic "romantic" scenes that promote the culture of extramarital relations between a man and a woman. The film was released in May-June of this year, and was heavily advertised by the Russian state propaganda.

Caucasian War 1763 - 1864 was recognized as one of the bloodiest pages in the history of mankind. During the war, which lasted 101 years, more than 500 thousand inhabitants of the Caucasus were killed, and hundreds of thousands were forced to leave their lands. The confrontation ended on May 21, 1864 with a battle in the Kbaada valley near Sochi. This date became the "beginning of the end" of the Muslim Circassian people.

Russia, at the cost of significant bloodshed, was able to suppress the armed resistance of the Caucasian peoples and seize their territories. As a result of the war, the local population of many thousands, who did not submit and did not accept the Russian anti-Islamic occupying power, was forced to leave their homes and move to the Ottoman Caliphate.

As a result of the Caucasian War in the North-Western Caucasus, the ethnic and religious composition of the population was almost completely changed. Most of the Circassians were forced to move to more than 40 countries of the world; according to various estimates, from 5 to 10% of the pre-war population remained in their homeland. The Russian authorities massively settled loyal Christian Cossacks in the occupied territories. To a large extent, although not so catastrophically, the ethnographic map of the North-Eastern Caucasus also changed, where ethnic Russians settled large territories cleared of the local population.

The total number of only Western Circassians (Circassians) evicted in 1858-1865, taking into account the number of deaths during the eviction, is approximately 800 thousand people (over 90% of the population). By 1866, about 50 thousand people remained in the homeland of Western Circassians.

Thus, this story of the occupation of the Caucasus, genocide, the deportation of Muslim Caucasians, the settlement of Russian Christians in their place is silent in this film "Amanat"; it presents the Caucasians with their occupation as a blessing for them.

At the same time, a real scientist, doctor of science, professor, deputy director of the Museum of the History of Dagestan, Khadzhimurat Donoy, was fired. The director of the museum dismissed him shamefully, out of cowardice, bluntly stating that he was "pressed from above" as a result of a public denunciation by some pro-Russian veterans of the Russian law enforcement agencies.

Khadzhimurat Donogo is the author of excellent books about the history of the era of Imam Shamil - the Imam of the Caucasus Emirate, who led the Islamic Jihad for a quarter of a century - resistance to Russian occupation in defense of Islam. Khadzhimurat is also the author of many other historical books. He is a professor who has delivered hundreds of thousands of lectures on history, trained professional history teachers, and has an excellent style of presentation and rare oratorical skills. The material taught by him was verified by a huge number of archival documents.

The real reason for the dismissal of the professor is that he brought the story as it is, especially with regards to the Caucasian war, without justifying the genocide, deportation, occupation of the Caucasian lands, without hiding all the bloody crimes of Russia against the Muslims of the Caucasus. This becomes obvious if you go to his telegram channel, where he publishes reliable historical materials and documents regarding the Caucasian war.

The similar situation was in Tatarstan.

After noisy advertising on central TV channels, the prime-time film "Zuleikha opens her eyes" was released, filmed by Guzel Yakhina, an apostate and assimilate, who had forgotten her Islamic

roots and Tatar origin. She made this film in contrast to the film “Zuleikha”, based on the book of the same name by Gayaz Iskhakyy.

For comparison: the film “Zuleikha”, based on the real historical facts, describes how the Muslims of the Volga region were subjected to forcible baptism, how Muslim women were forcibly married off to Orthodox Christians. The film describes the life of the Tatars under Russian occupation, forced baptism, their resistance to the invaders and their sacrifices in order to preserve their religion, culture and language.

The film “Zuleikha opens her eyes” describes the life of a girl from a Muslim family who married into the same Muslim family, where she drags out a miserable, humiliated existence, allegedly due to outdated Islamic values. Having fallen under the repressive machine of the Soviet state terror, again, through the fault of her Muslim husband, she falls in love with her overseer - the executioner and murderer of her husband - a Russian NKVD officer and marries him. Her son from a Muslim husband completely assimilates, becomes Russified, becomes an apostate, even takes a Russian surname - the stepfather of the NKVD, changes his name to Russian and receives education and enlightenment in a Soviet educational institution. That is, the message of the film speaks of the doom of the Muslim Tatars to extinction, through assimilation and Russification. The author of the film, herself, who is a victim of assimilation and Russification, presents what happened as a happy ending.

It should also be reminded of the ban on the book of the Tatar writer Vakhit Imamov "The Hidden History of the Tatars", which the Russian "justice" recognized as extremist and banned. Because this book, based on historical facts, describes the history of the Tatars and the Muslim Bashkirs, starting from the moment the Kazan Khanate was captured by the Moscow state of the Russian Tsar Ivan the Terrible in 1552. It describes the struggle of the Muslims of the Volga region for their Islamic religion, for the preservation of their identity based on Islam, its culture and values, for the preservation of its language, against forced baptism, assimilation, Russification, robbery and genocide by the Russian invaders. The revolts of the Tatar-Bashkirs against the Russian invaders are described, which lasted for more than one century, and the sacrifices that the Tatar-Bashkirs-Muslims made in order to preserve themselves as Muslims.

Obviously, such films as “Amanat”, addressed to the Caucasians, and “Zuleikha opens her eyes”, addressed to the Tatars, are aimed at separating the Muslim peoples of the Caucasus and Tatarstan from their history, reminiscent of their identity, culture and religion, for which their ancestors fought and died, resisted the occupation, Russification, Christianization, the imposition of communist ideology. The purpose of all this is the assimilation of these peoples.

The Russian government and its state propaganda do not just keep silent about the crimes against the occupied, deported or exterminated peoples. They deny the very existence of some peoples, as in the case of the Muslim Circassians of the Caucasus. On the contrary, after a century and a half, as in the case of the Circassians, and after almost five centuries, as in the case of the Muslims of the Volga Bulgaria, Russia glorifies those who did this genocide and deportation. Today, General Yermolov and others like him, who especially distinguished themselves in the bloodshed of the occupied Caucasian peoples, are considered heroes of Russia. Monuments to him and his like are also erected on the lands of the Muslims, whose blood they shed. Similarly, monuments are erected to Ivan the Terrible, Catherine II and others like them, who seized the lands of today's Tatars, Bashkirs, Crimean Tatars, and other Muslim peoples who found themselves under the Russian boot. This speaks of the continuity of the essence of Russian power, which treats all captured Muslim peoples as second-class people: “basurmans”, recalcitrant troublemakers, who do not want to voluntarily be baptized, “disbelievers”, “chocks”, who do not want to become Russian. And for the fact that they do not want to assimilate, they want to preserve their religion, culture, values and language and preserve and pass it on to their descendants. But they become “extremists” and “terrorists”, who do not agree with the power of the Russian occupation, “troublemakers” and “rebels”.

Allah (swt) said in the Quran: ﴿وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُصْلِحُونَ﴾ **“When they are told, ‘Do not spread corruption in the land,’ they reply, ‘We are only peace-makers!’”** [TMQ 2:11].

**Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir by  
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