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Social and cultural implications of migration processes of women-scientists

Социально-культурный подтекст миграционных процессов среди женщин-ученых

Industrial, economic, scientific and cultural development was spread over the whole country, including distant rural areas. Self-contained, independent Soviet economy called for a differentiation in industry and education. To provide for the new demands new educational establishments were being built, new specialists in various fields of industry and science were being prepared. Women were encouraged to work in the system of science and higher education. The greatest influx of women to Russian science occurred soon after World War II.

Along with educating local qualified specialists – the process that went extremely slowly and painfully due to a variety of reasons – scientists from the centre were sent to the provinces. In the republics professional cultures grew into a symbiosis of various subcultures which co-existed and cooperated, thus affecting gender stereotypes. That was a powerful factor of cultural progress. In the scientific institutions none of the national cultures could claim for the domineering role – mutual integration could not allow for that.

Right before the deconstruction of the USSR and soon after that there started contrasting processes. Under the effect of the centrifugal forces women-scientists and their families began to return to their motherland. Several years have passed since a decrease in the influx of migrants from the former Soviet Union to the Russia. Now it is high time to find out, to what degree the rights of migrated women-scientists have been violated both in everyday life and in the professional sphere.

The project is aimed at the solution of the research problem — contemporary forms of discrimination against women-scientists, having experienced migrations to the Soviet Union republics and then from NIS to Russia.

Methods of research: generalization of official documents, literature; analysis of statistical data; biographical interview with women-scientists — representatives of migration streams, illustrating cases of discrimination, connected with the life of women in the republics, with the preservation and loss of their own ethnos' spiritual life objects and phenomena, other ethnic cultural traditions acquisition.