ANNOTATION

to the dissertation of Shotayev Madi Tursynbekovich for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) by educational program «8D03205 – Archiving, document management and documentation support» on the topic «Documents of «special folders» of party funds of the Archive of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan: historical and archival research (1937-1991)»

Description of the dissertation. The dissertation work is intended to study the documents of the «special folders» of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan created in 1937-1991, in the party funds of the Archive of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as a historical source from a historical and archival perspective.

Relevance of the research work. In the Soviet era, the ideologizing of society by the party apparatus, strict control over the use of archival information, and the inaccessibility of party documents to the general public and researchers, as well as restrictions and partial restrictions, created great obstacles for researchers of the political history of Kazakhstan.

The declassification and introduction into scientific circulation of archival documents that were restricted from use during the Soviet era has made it possible to rewrite our history. One of such documents is the documents of the «special folders» in the party funds of the Archive of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Among them are classified documents about the political structure of the country, political repression, deportation, evacuation, preparation of military formations, development of virgin and fallow lands, socio-economic development of Kazakhstan in the socialist era, etc.

In the writing of the political history of the 20th century, the «special folders» created in the 1930s–1950s are in great demand today. In Kazakhstan and in the post-Soviet countries, as well as in foreign countries that were part of the socialist camp, the archival study of documents of a secret level included in the «special folders» has not yet become an object of research. There are only a handful of archival and documentary works. Research on the formation, recording, preservation, and use of party documents is undoubtedly a guide in working with documents in archives in Kazakhstan. The study of inaccessible documents is not only an academic issue, but also has socio-historical significance. It is necessary to note the importance of the materials in the «special folders» documents as a source for studying not only everyday life but also general political history.

The object of the study is documents from the «special folders» in the party funds of the Archives of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the years 1937–1991.

The subject of the study is the archival aspects of the requisite section and information content of the documents of «special folders», the features of their storage and use.

The purpose and objectives of the dissertation work. Archival analysis of documents from the «special folders» of 1937–1991 in the party funds of the Archive of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan as a historical source.

In accordance with the goal we set, the following tasks have been set:

- to consider the formation of party archives and the process of collecting and storing party documents in archives, the introduction of party documents into scientific circulation and the organization of their use during the Soviet and independent periods;
- analyze the history of the emergence of the «special folder» label and determine its role;
- classification of documents in «special folders»;
- analysis of the compliance of the inventory of «special folders» with the scientific and methodological standards of archival fund formation by creating an archival description of the inventory of «special folders» documents;
- consideration of the features of the formation of documents in the «special folders» complex;
- to demonstrate the information value of «special folders» in the study of the history of Kazakhstan in the 20th century by systematizing the issues considered in them.

Degree of the study. The level of scientific research on the topic can be divided into two groups, depending on the specifics of the work and the differentiation of the problem. The first of these can be attributed to scientific works aimed at studying party administrative documents from a documentary perspective.

Having comprehensively studied the documents of the CPSU from a documentary perspective and considered the theoretical and methodological methods of using documents as sources, M.A. Varshavchik formed the foundation of the documentary study of the history of the CPSU, and by classifying the documents, he described their documentary significance. Although the author's works were written in the ideological tone of the era when the CPSU was dominant, he has a special place in the systematization of party documents from a documentary perspective.

Among the proceeding documents, the protocols of the central Soviet governing bodies were the main object of study. Documentologists made a great contribution to the generalization and development of theoretical and methodological issues of documentology. The works of a number of authors reveal the social nature of historical documents as carriers of information about the past, their relation to objectivity and subjectivity, and their completeness and authenticity in depicting historical reality.

The problems of systematization of the historical source, its basic principles, methods of using and studying historical source, the sequence and content of the stages of working with source are considered in the works of V.P. Danilov and S.I. Yakubovsky, V.K. Yatsunsky, M.K. Makarov, A.P. Pronshtein, O.M. Medushevsky and others.

The dissertation research of M.A. Kadyrtaeva, Zhakisheva, A. Kulshanova, K. Alimgazinov, and A. Balapanov, who considered methods of working with historical source, should not be ignored.

After the Communist Party of the Soviet Union ceased to exist in 1991, works on the issues of accounting, preservation, scientific publication and use of its archive funds can be attributed to the second group. Along with the countries of the USSR, scientists and archivists from countries under socialist regimes raised and published issues on the integration of the archives of the CPSU into the state archive system, the reorganization of funds, and the scientific and technical processing of unit. Scientific conferences and round tables were organized, where archivists and specialists in the theory of archival work shared their experiences and exchanged opinions.

Among the publications that comprehensively reflect the work of archival institutions in the USSR, the journals «Voprosy arhivovedeniya» and «Soviet archives» are of particular importance. Publications reporting on news in the general areas of work of archives, on the progress of collection, accounting and preservation, provision of references and scientific publishing were the only professional publications that were presented to the attention of researchers and discussed by specialists.

The international conference «Archives of the Former Communist Parties in Central and Eastern Europe», organized by the General Directorate of the State Archives of the Republic of Poland, the Archive of New Acts in Warsaw, was attended by representatives of 28 archives from 13 countries of Central and Eastern Europe. 15 articles and 32 scientific reports were presented and discussed. Almost all of the records emphasized that documents from the archives of the Communist Party are considered a source base for studying the political and social history of the 20th century.

Source analysis of the problem. The research used transcripts of party conferences, plenums, presidium meetings, bureaus, secretariats of regional committees, district and city party committees, meetings of council, trade union and Komsomol assets, and additional preparatory materials for them.

Among them are: inventory of the archive fund №708 of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan in the Archives of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan covering the years 1937–1991, the documentary fund of the party funds, including the secret department, which is part of the special sector, fund files for various years, recording historical references, acts on the acceptance of units of the inventory of the archive fund №708, their features, number and composition,

The scientific novelty of the research is as follows:

The information content of the documents of the «special folders» covering important periods in the history of our country is analyzed comprehensively from the point of view of documentary and archival science in the study of the history of Kazakhstan.

An analysis was conducted of the scientific reference apparatus of the «special folders» documents for compliance with the standards for the formation of archival funds, including:

- By creating an archival description of the inventory of documents in «special folders», the compliance of the inventory of «special folders» with the scientific and methodological standards for the formation of archival funds is analyzed;

- The peculiarities of the formation of documents stored in party archives under the secrecy category into files or storage units are analyzed.

The information value of the documents of the «special folders» in the study of the history of Kazakhstan in the 20th century was analyzed:

- the types of documents stored in «special folders» are described and their information capacity is analyzed;

- a comparative analysis of the content features of the documents of the protocol section and the the secret section of «special folders» is carried out;

- secret section documents are systematized according to their correspondence and thematic features7

In addition, during the search, analysis, and study of sources and scientific research works for the preparation of the dissertation, the following innovation was identified: the process of collecting and storing party documents in archives, the emergence and role of the «special folder» label, the organization of the introduction of party documents into scientific circulation and their use during the Soviet and independent periods were comprehensively examined.

Scientific conclusions to be defended:

The formation of party archives should be considered separately: a) the period from 1904 to the October Revolution, when party organizations carried out underground work and stored party documents in foreign countries; b) the period from the October Revolution to 1927, when the party archives acquired official status after the communists came to power; c) the period from 1927 to 1991, when party archives functioned as an element of the totalitarian system.

In addition, the fact that the communists, who had been working underground for many years, could not escape the conspiracy regime even after coming to power was determined by the following signs: the separation of the party archive fund from the state archive fund; a special attitude towards party documents; and the fact that the majority of party documents were kept in a secret regime.

A special approach to party documents has allowed for the formation and preservation in archival funds of a significant and voluminous set of documents of historical documentary value in the study of the history of the CPSU.

The lack of a clear program of the communists who came to power on how the country should develop and how to implement it, the formation of different opinions and discord among the party leaders became the reason for the emergence of the «special folder», which is considered a secret within a secret. «Special folders» documents, which represent a secret within a secret, became a type of top-down secret documents in party proceedings, consisting of several levels of secrecy.

The composition and description of the documents of the «special folders» in the party funds of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan and the process of their introduction into scientific circulation based on the content and meaning of the issues addressed in them are revealed. The archival issues of studying the «special folders» are revealed.

For the first time, an archival description of the inventory of documents of the «special folders» of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan was made. The compliance of the inventory of the «special folders» with the scientific and methodological norms of the formation of the archival fund was analyzed, and recommendations were made for their improvement.

The features of the formation of units of the «special folders» document complex are considered from a scientific and methodological perspective.

The issues considered in the «special folders» in the study of the history of Kazakhstan in the 20th century are grouped and systematized according to their thematic characteristics.

The research work passed the approval process. 11 scientific articles were published in accordance with the topic of the dissertation work, including 3 articles in publications recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the MSHE of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 1 article in a journal included in the Scopus database, 1 article in the Yearbook of the Institute of Eastern and Central Europe, 4 articles in collections of materials of international scientific and practical conferences, and 2 articles in the scientific and methodological journal «New Archive».

The chronological framework of the dissertation includes documents from «special folders» from 1937–1991 in the party funds of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan.

Thesis structure. This dissertation work consists of an introduction, three chapters, each consisting of at least three sub-paragraphs, a conclusion, a list of references and appendices.