CALL FOR PAPERS

“Homeland and Exile: Legacy, Memory, and History of the Tatar Experience of Genocide in Crimea”

In Honour of the 70th anniversary of the 1944 Crimean Tatar Deportation

Seventy years have passed since the 1944 deportation of the Crimean Tatars from their homeland by the Soviet authorities, and still profound questions surrounding the tragedy remain unanswered. Was the deportation (May 18, 1944 is known as the Black Day - Kara Gün) genocide? Was it part of a larger genocidal process in Crimea and the Soviet Union—or the twentieth century? How does the tragic fate of the Crimean Tatar people fit into the larger program of Soviet politics, society, culture, and history? Were the deportations of other Crimean ethnic minorities part of the same broader political trajectory or historical processes? How are the deportations judged and remembered? What is the legacy of the deportations?

To help answer these questions, Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal (GSP) invites submissions for a special issue on the 70th anniversary of the 1944 Crimean Tatar Deportation: “Homeland and Exile: Legacy, Memory, and History of the Tatar Experience of Genocide in Crimea.” The editors seek manuscripts on the following issues:

1) The history of Crimea, especially since the loss of independence in 1783, with a focus on conditions and the conduct of crimes of genocide, as well as potential for or existence of current genocidal policies against the Crimean Tatars;
2) The historical case of the 1944 deportations of the Crimean Tatars from the prism of categorising it as genocide. The editors wish to solicit manuscripts that offer competing evaluation and interpretations, for and against the case;
3) The 1944 Crimean Tatar deportation in the context of the nationalities question in Crimea during WWII that also includes simultaneous exile of the Crimea’s Armenians, Bulgarians, and Greeks, as well as the preceding Soviet deportation of the Crimean Germans and the Nazi extermination of the Crimea’s Jews and their policies towards the Karaites and the Krymchaks;
4) The 1944 Crimean deportations in comparison to the Soviet expulsion of other ethnic groups during WWII that include contemporaneous exile of a number of the peoples of the Caucasus: the Mesheti Turks, Chechens and Ingush, Karachais and Balkars, along with the Kalmyks, as well as the earlier 1941 deportation of the Soviet Germans;
5) The exile from and return to Crimea of the Crimean Tatars, and the legacy of the deportations, changes in the composition, both ethnic and social, of the Crimea’s population, the power relations among Crimean ethnic groups, attitudes towards contemporary Ukrainian-Russian struggle over Crimea;
6) Erasure and reconstitution of historical memory in Crimea, including both Russian imperial and Soviet place and personal name changes, preservation, destruction, and restoration of cultural symbols and artefacts, revival and development of communal life, remembrance of various aspects of external domination, loss of sovereignty, change of status, and transfer of the territory;
7) Investigations of the social and cultural consequences of the 1944 deportation and genocide, in regard to the Crimean Tatar language, arts, literature, oral traditions, music, architecture, and other related fields.
8) Or other related research interests along these lines that deal with genocide, and the consequences of genocidal social processes, either explicitly or implicitly.

The journal is also interested in review essays on the state of current research and scholarship on political violence, genocide, displacement, issues of identity, structural violence, nationalist tensions, repression, or other related issues in Crimea. We encourage submissions of review essays to fall between 1,000 to 2,500 words.

If you are interested in submitting a manuscript for this special issue of GSP, please register as an author at http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/gsp/. The submission process is automated through the GSP website. In preparing the manuscript, refer to the GSP submission guidelines at: http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/gsp/. Indicate on the first page of the manuscript that the article is intended for the special issue “Tatar Deportations and the Crimean Genocide.” If you have any questions submitting an article for this issue, please email the issue editor Douglas Irvin-Erickson dirvin@genocidescholars.org, or the guest editor Gennadi Poberežny at poberezny@fas.harvard.edu. Manuscripts should be received no later than 1 October 2014. If you are interested in writing a book review for this issue, contact the book review editor, Dr. Tetsushi Ogata at togata@berkeley.edu.