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NEW DIRECTIONS IN THE DEMOGRAPHIC POLICY OF CHINA

This article is devoted to the actual problem of demographic policy and the demographic situation in China. The author analyzes the consequences of the policy of birth control in the PRC and new approaches to regulating the demographic policy and socio-economic tasks related to the demographic situation of modern China, voiced at the XIX Congress of the CPC.

Key words: demography, socio-economic situation, demographic policy, phenomenon of the “little emperor”, “aging of the nation”, XIX Congress of the CPC.

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ҚХР-дың демографиялық саясатының жаңа бағыттары

Бұл мақалада Қытайдағы өзекті мәселе – демографиялық саясат пен демографиялық жағдайы қарастырылады. Автор ҚХР-дағы бала тууды шектеу саясатының салдарын және демографиялық саясатты реттеудің жаңа әдістері мен ҚКП-ның XIX съезінде айтылған қазіргі кездегі Қытайдың демографиялық жағдайына байланысты әлеуметтік-экономикалық міндеттерін саралайды.

Түйін сөздер: демография, әлеуметтік-экономикалық ахуал, демографиялық саясат, «кішкентай император», «ұлттың қартаюы», ҚКП-ның XIX съезі.

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Новые направления в демографической политике КНР

Данная статья посвящена актуальной проблеме демографической политики и демографического положения Китая. Автором проанализированы последствия политики ограничения рождаемости в КНР и новые подходы в регулировании демографической политики и социально-экономические задачи, связанные с демографическим положением современного Китая, озвученные на XIX съезде КПК.

Ключевые слова: демография, социально-экономическое положение, демографическая политика, феномен «маленького императора», «старение нации», XIX съезд КПК.

Introduction

In today's world, demography is one of the global problems. The state regulates the birth rate of specific months in all countries.

Incentive methods are used in European countries. In most of the economically developed

countries that have entered the demographic crisis, the policy of demographic policy, the achievement of which is to increase the birth rate and natural increase. Especially countries of Eastern Europe made active demographic policy until the late 80's. To stimulate population growth, observe one-time loans to the newlyweds, allowances for the

birth of each child – according to a progressively increasing scale, monthly allowances for children, long maternity leave, the priority right to purchase an apartment, and the placement of children in children's institutions.

Most of the funds in the twentieth century began to implement a demographic policy aimed at reducing fertility and natural population growth. Quite an active demographic policy were done in Latin America, some countries in North Africa. Measures to increase population growth are mainly used in the countries of the East. Developing countries in Asia, where most of the inhabitants of the planet live is a more vivid example of the implementation of the demographic policy. Because of the religious factor, demographic policy is not so relevant in Muslim countries.

Inside the country, the main goal of the demographic policy is to reduce the birth rate and natural population growth. Fertility decreases as a result of the popularization and spread of contraceptives, health education, counseling on family planning, the promotion of the advantages of a small child, and the stimulation of low-income families through various economic and administrative measures.

Theoretical basis of demography and population

In the Ancient World, ancient China and during the Middle Ages on the population formed different opinions. Confucius, Plato, Aristotle drew attention to the relationship between the population and its overall development. Plato in the doctrine of the ideal state put forward as a mandatory condition a limited number of citizens of 5,040 people of the free population. The demographic ideal of Plato is precisely the established population. He believed that wealth is not inexhaustible and that the number of free population should be accurately determined.

Aristotle adopts the demographic views of Plato, but primarily focuses on the economic threat caused by demographic expansion.

Confucius attempted to determine the ideal proportion between the amount of cultivated land and the population. As a violation of this proportion can lead, with a small number of people to deteriorate the cultivation of arable land and to abandon taxes, with excessive population density to impoverishment, idleness, social tension. So, it is necessary to regulate the population growth and adopt such a measure as the resettlement of densely populated areas in sparsely populated areas.

Demographics, being an interdisciplinary scientific field, concern various problems of

politics, sociology, economics, history, law and a number of other areas. Modern scientists study the demographic policy in different ways. One group of scientists believes that population policy is one of the methods of economic planning, with which it is possible to improve the situation of the population, the demographic situation of the country must be regulated through government programs.

The second group of scientists understand it as a means of reducing the population. Such examples are found in the theory and practice of regulating the population in a number of countries in South-East Asia.

In our opinion, the demographic policy should be aimed at protecting all segments of the population: motherhood and childhood, ensuring a comfortable elder, the ratio of the sexes, etc. A weighted demographic policy depends on raising the level of the well-being of society. The main goal of the demographic policy is to achieve the quality of life that corresponds to the material possibilities of society, taking into account its cultural and ethnic traditions.

A distinctive feature of studying the demographic problem of China in the modern period is undoubtedly connected with its huge population and the leading position in the world arena. The ideological basis of China's demographic policy is based on the teachings of Confucianism on the creation of public order and harmony, which are the central elements of Chinese civilization. Harmony supposes a peaceful solution to problems, the inadmissibility of violence, the adoption of mutually complementary solutions for the sake of universal prosperity. The Chinese concept of "harmony" is based on ethics and culture of the individual, implying the achievement of political harmony through the development of the inner harmony of man himself.

The demographic policy of China in the twentieth century

The demographic situation of China has always been under the close attention of both the Chinese government itself and the world community. The Chinese population was about 1,400 million people in 2018, over the past year the population of the country has increased by approximately 7,156,639 people. The idea of fertility planning appeared in China under the rule of Mao Zedong. However, he did not realize his idea because of other important reforms at that time. Several measures were taken to reduce the rate of growth of the birth rate in the 1950s, but the government's efforts did not bring the expected results. The government began to purposefully exercise control over the population

in the beginning of August 1956. According to statistics, the Chinese population in the period from 1949 to 1976 increased from 540 million to 940 million people, which entailed problems related to lack of water and land resources, providing medical and educational services. All these problems were particularly relevant in the 1970s, in connection with that government, a new demographic policy was developed, the essence of which was planned childbearing. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China approved the official demographic policy in 1978 and the Law on Family Planning was approved in 1980. The State Committee for the Planning of Fertility began to function in 1981. The Chinese government has officially obliged all Chinese citizens to "plan fertility" to bring population growth in line with China's economic and social development plans since 1979. Demographic policy measures included mass propaganda about the restriction of children, the spread of means of birth control, the resolution of abortion and sterilization. Also, the Chinese government has taken more stringent administrative, economic and legal measures to increase the age of marriage and measures of "punishment".

In general, the demographic policy of China in the 1970s and 1980s was aimed at moving from a large family to a one-child family. The wide propaganda of a one-child family was carried out under such slogans and mottos as "One child in the family", "One family – one child", "The people without brothers and sisters", "Two children – well, three – too many, have four children – error", "Later, less often, less", etc. These slogans and mottos provided for stimulating late marriages and encouraging large gaps between children in the family. Such a policy was carried out to coordinate the development of population on the one hand, on the other – the development of the economy, society, resources and the environment

It should be noted that the planning of births in China had its own specifics and the measures taken to limit the birth rate were not widely spread. When implementing the demographic policy, the Chinese government took into account the number of national minorities, cultural traditions, the structure of the population of the hotel region and the socio-economic resources of a particular locality. Distinctive features of the implementation of this policy were visible between cities and villages. For example, peasants experiencing difficulties in labor shortages were allowed to have a second child, and the family should observe the interval after the birth of the first child. In areas where national minorities

lived, families were allowed to have two and three children. For small national minorities, there were no restrictions at all.

The active measures to limit the birth rate, conducted in China in the 1970s-1980s, contributed to a significant change in the demographic situation in the country in comparison with the period of the 1950s, the birth rate has more than halved. The demographic regulation policy allowed the country to cut government spending to provide for a growing generation, to soften population pressure on resources and ecology. As a result, these events contributed to the development of the economy and the improvement of people's lives, in 2000 the Chinese government managed to carry out socio-economic transformation of China. In 2000, GDP per capita was \$ 800. Since the beginning of the transition to the policy of birth control, the PRC authorities have succeeded in solving the problem of reducing three indicators: fertility, mortality and population growth rates as a whole. Consequently, the policy of regulating the size of the population has borne fruit.

Socio-economic consequences of the policy of birth control in China

At the XVI Congress of the CPC set the goal of building a "small welfare" society – xiaokang shahui in 2002, and put forward a new task of increasing the gross domestic product by 4 times by 2020 compared to 2000, and GDP per capita should be over \$ 3,000. (Delyagin M. Sheyanov V. 2017: 205). In the process of realizing the tasks set by the XVI Congress of the CPC, the Chinese government has faced multiple problems, despite the effective implementation of the demographic policy, a number of other issues remain unresolved.

According to statistics, in 2002, the population of China was 1.285 billion people, according to the forecast of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations by 2050 is expected to increase the Chinese population to 1.5 billion. Achieving a larger population in the country is exacerbating the problems of providing food, shelter, fuel and jobs. The discrepancy between the total population and the pace of development of education, health care, housing construction and public services are reflected in the qualitative characteristics of the population. Also, the environmental problem associated with population growth is acute. Rapid population growth and increased industrial production put enormous pressure on the environment.

The demographic situation of the country has always been an urgent task for the Chinese

Communist Party. Thus, at the XVIII Congress of the CPC, the course was confirmed to continue the planned birth rate policy and to raise the qualitative characteristics of the new generations, which should contribute to the balanced development of the population of the PRC for a long period of time.

The communiqué of the All-China Committee on Population Development and Family Planning noted in recent years that the demographic situation should favor socio-economic development, and population policy should be its progressive basis. (China Population Today, Vol. 29. N 1. 2012. P.)

The 2010 Census statistics provide a deep understanding of the changes in population in China. This is very important information that shows the positive and negative aspects of the demographic situation in the country. On the one hand, the level of qualification of the workforce and the level of education are growing, there is an increase in the population with higher and secondary education, an increase in urbanization, and a new map of the population economy of China is being formed. On the other hand, there are more and more challenges in the field of population. The number of children and their share in the age structure is decreasing, the aging of the population is progressing, the situation with the labor force is exacerbated. There are new difficulties that are incomparable with the difficulties of the previous period. The aging of the population and the slowing of its growth rates together resulted in a shortage of cheap labor (Bazhenova E.S New aspects of the demographic situation in China, 2014).

Thus, it can be concluded that the demographic factor in China is one of the main factors constraining the solution of the task of rapid economic development of the country. China has a huge surplus of labor, which creates a threat of unemployment. There is also a noticeable increase in the proportion of adult disabled people. According to the UN assessment, if the number of people aged 60 and over is more than 10% of the total population, then this country is a “country with an elderly population”. According to the scientists’ forecast, aging of the nation is expected in the next 40 years in China. The elderly population of the Chinese will be over 300 million people by 2025, or more than 20% of the total population. The proportion of older people will rise to 27% by 2035; every fourth person in the country will be elderly. If the current trend persists till 2040, the number of elderly Chinese will reach a quarter of a billion and 2-3 times the number of young people in the country until the age of 20. (Population of China: 2018)

The Chinese National Commission on Health and Family Planning stated that the “one family-one child” policy “prevented” the birth of approximately 400 million people in 2013. The government collected about 2 trillion yuan (\$ 314 million) in the form of fines since 1980. (China’s Demographic Policy “One Family – One Child”: 2018)

The Chinese government has officially allowed families to have two children since 2015. The birth control program helped to reduce the rate of population growth, but at the same time gave rise to a new problem – the “little emperor” – the only child in the Chinese family. Over the years of the implementation of the planned birth rate policy in China, 140 million single children were born. In today’s Chinese society, the social and psychological consequences of this policy for the whole generation of children who grew up without brothers and sisters are acutely felt. The only children in the family grew more selfish, spoiled and socially not adapted. The centuries-old Confucian traditions under the influence of such processes undergo changes, some value orientations of youth, problems that were not previously characteristic of Chinese society, deformation of the national traditions of moral education.

In addition to the listed negative phenomena, there are more serious consequences of the policy of one child. According to scientists, in China, an imperfect pension system that does not allow to cover the entire population of the country. Thus, caring for the elders and all the related costs of their maintenance fall on young people, often on single children. This leads to another socio-economic problem associated with the increase in the economic burden of older people. Currently, every able-bodied married couple has to support one child and four elderly people, which will lead to additional expenses of the state budget for pensions, social insurance and medical care. This trend will continue in the near future. In the second half of the XXI century, the younger generation, even with all the will, objectively can not provide the required and necessary economic and other assistance to the older generation.

Another side effect of containing demographic growth was a skewed gender balance caused by artificial family planning. According to the census, five girls are born for almost six boys in China.

It should be noted that the state in every possible way tries to ensure the calm and comfortable old age of the citizens of China. In many autonomous regions and cities of central subordination, a network of old people’s homes has been established.

Regional authorities involve pensioners in various forms of socially useful activities. For them, a number of special enterprises have been created with a facilitated mode of production; they also take part in the maintenance of public order, in the upbringing of the younger generation, and help with advice and consultations on the ground of their previous work. Such activities are aimed at further socializing the elderly and ensuring the continuity of generations in Chinese society.

It is impossible not to notice the transformation of the views of traditional society on the institution of marriage and family. Currently, the number of adherents of late marriages, the late birth of a child is increasing, the Chinese consciously limit the number of children to ensure the health and well-being of the next generation. The modern Chinese family applies equally to the child's sex. Gradually, the social role of women as a mother, and so on in the world of work, increases.

It should be noted that faced with the problems of excessive population growth, the leadership of China made demographic policy an important part of the country's modernization program. In the process of implementing measures to plan fertility, it was possible to significantly reduce population growth, which favored the development of the economy and the improvement of people's lives. At present, the main tasks in the field of population are to maintain stably modest indicators of natural growth and eliminate such negative consequences of birth control, such as population aging and the growth of the demographic burden, gender imbalance.

New approaches to regulating the demographic situation in China

At the XIX Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Secretary General of the Central Committee, Xi Jinping, touched on the issue of demography in his speech. In general, we can conclude that the XIX Congress of the CPC marked the further direction of the demographic policy of the PRC. In his report, Xi Jinping said: "Ensuring that the policy of procreation is linked with appropriate measures in the field of social and economic policy, it is necessary to intensify the strategic studies of demographic development." (Report of Xi Jinping Chairman at the XIX All-China Congress of the Communist Party of China: 2017), the General Secretary of the Central Committee drew attention to the aging of the Chinese population, defined tasks for the government to formulate a system of state measures and ensure an adequate social environment. Social problems caused by the planning of childbearing and population growth,

today have become particularly relevant. Therefore, the Chinese government is trying to solve the problems of pension provision for the elderly, job creation, upgrading of labor resources and provision of housing for the population. In connection with the pressing problems of Chinese society, at the XIX Congress of the CPC was set a task to ensure a decent old age, respect for old age and respect for the elderly. In the future, the government will promote the integration of services for the care of the elderly and their medical services, accelerate the development of the gerontological service and the corresponding industry in China.

Thus, it can be concluded that the demographic policy of China since 1979 on the planning of fertility to bring population growth in line with China's economic and social development plans is gaining new strength in a new era. It should be noted that today the Chinese government does not set the task of limiting the birth rate, but focuses on the consistency of the demographic situation with the socio-economic tasks of the country. "To coordinate the policy on fertility with economic and social policies." (Report of Chairman Xi Jinping at the XIX All-China Congress of the Communist Party of China: 2017).

The implementation of the new concept of development and the creation of a modernized economic system, announced at the XIX Congress of the CCP, requires a huge army of labor, which in the near future in China will be problematic. Economic growth and prosperity of the economy are closely related to the availability of young and relatively cheap labor resources in the country, which in turn ensures the competitiveness of the national economy at the world level. At the same time, in our opinion, the Chinese government still does not directly target the increase in population, given the lack of many types of resources, services and environmental pressures and environmental degradation, especially in densely populated regions of China. According to Chinese researchers, a scientific approach is needed to solve demographic problems and regulate the demographic policy of China. Currently, Chinese scientists are faced with the task of developing a scientific justification for practical demographic policy measures aimed at coordinating demography with the state's economic and social policy.

Summing up, we can conclude that in historical retrospect, the demographic policy of China is dependent on the priority tasks of the states of different stages of the country's development. After the formation of China in the period of formation with the aim of providing the subsistence level of

the population, also for the social and economic development of the country, severe measures were needed to limit the birth rate. In the new era, in the period of China's leading position in the international arena, administrative solutions are not required for rational solution of demographic problems, and other methods, in the priority will be a scientifically grounded approach to regulating the demographic

situation of China. The processes currently taking place in China inevitably lead to changes in the balance of forces in the world. The development of China, the increase of its economic and political status in the international arena is of interest to all. New directions in the demographic policy are interesting for Kazakhstan for further cooperation with the neighboring state, having a huge population.

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