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“Post-Antonovschina” as a Distinctive Stage in the Development of the Tambov Village after the Peasant Uprising of 1920–21: Materials from Regional Archives

Abstract

Problematics of the Tambov village development after suppression of the Antonov’s mutiny remains little studied. Socio-economic, ideological, cultural, and educational struggle against the consequences of the Tambov economic and political conflict was an important aspect in state

policy, the same as use of military and political measures in the “re-socialization” of anti-Soviet villages. To stabilize the situation on the ground, lengthy progressive steps were required on the part of authorities. The author attempts to study the period of “post-Antonovschina” as a separate period in the Tambov village development. Significance of the work is determined by the need to analyze the consequences of peasant uprising in order to develop means of resolving deep socio-political crisis. Systematic interdisciplinary approach has made it possible to analyze content and features of the Tambov village development in the “post-Antonovschina” period. It also provides an opportunity to apply interdisciplinary tools of historical, socio-humanitarian, and economic sciences, thus significantly expanding research potential and providing deeper conclusions. In preparation of the article, general scientific and special historical research methods have been used. A special place in is occupied by the theory of modernization. Mobilization of historical sources on this topic has been carried out for the first time. The article presents the historiography of the problem and characterization of documentary sources from regional archives of Tambov and Voronezh (State Archive of the Tambov Region, State Archive of the Socio-Political History of the Tambov Region, State Archive of the Socio-Political History of the Voronezh Region) that contain wide and comprehensive array of materials, some of which have not been introduced into scientific use or published. Documentary materials from regional archives permit to piece together complete picture of the events in the Tambov gubernia in the first years following the Antonov’s mutiny. They also permit to draw conceptual conclusions on the historical fate of peasant generation that saw the Antonov’s mutiny, to identify the reasons for restoration of “moral economy” in the Tambov gubernia in 1920–21, to determine features of peasant identity transformations under the influence of civilizational challenge, to explore the Bolsheviks’ “appeasement” of peasantry in the zone of the Tambov uprising.

Keywords

Archival documents, sources, Tambov village, peasantry, Tambov uprising, consequences of the uprising, appeasement.

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