

Oponent's assessment of the diploma thesis of Rustam Abilov "Mortality development in Central Asian countries in 1986-2006"

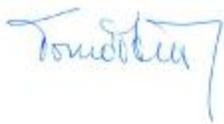
The diploma thesis of student Rustam Abilov "Mortality development in Central Asian countries in 1986-2006" consists of 128 pages of text including 11 pages of appendixes. The text is organized in eight numerated chapters including the introduction. Conclusion is untraditionally not numerated. A part of the work are the also lists of abbreviations, tables and figures, references and appendixes.

The aim of the diploma research carried out by R. Abilov was better understanding to recent mortality developments in the countries of the post-Soviet Central Asia and evaluation of their lag behind the developed countries represented in this case by the Czech Republic. Besides sex and age also causes of death were the differentiating characteristics when he was examining the mortality process.

The work has standard structure of a final thesis. The first five chapters are of a technical nature introducing the problem to be studied, the goal and other aims of the study as well as the research questions and hypotheses to be examined, discussing the used literature, basic terminology and data. In this block of chapters also a methodological chapter has appeared. The core of the thesis is represented by chapters 6-8. In the Chapter 6 an overview of general mortality trends is presented. Chapter 7 is devoted to mortality by causes of death, meanwhile, the last core chapter contains a discussion of the social and economic factors like living standards, developments of the health care systems, education and labor market on the process of mortality. The Conclusion is providing space to the recapitulation of the major findings of the presented diploma thesis.

Using data from the Human mortality database and the quoted relevant literature, Rustam Abilov correctly and in detail analyzed the mortality patterns and their developments in the countries in question during the period 1986-2006. The text of his diploma thesis is generally written in understandable English. The errors, misprints and mainly misformulations which have not been corrected and remained without attention, do not principally influence the quality of the thesis. Besides these imperfections there are no similar problems in the work since they were removed from the text prior to its submission.

Since I have no doubt about quality of Rustam Abilov's work I can recommend his diploma thesis "Mortality development in Central Asian countries in 1986-2006" for a defense.



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tutor

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