Affective Aspects of the Transnational Migration from Central Asia in Russia

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The Russian Federation is among of the top five countries receiving migrants, much of which is migrants from the Central Asia. Their main goal is to improve their personal life and well-being of their family at home. However nowadays migration is a multifaceted phenomenon involving various transnational links and practices, the circulation between countries not only of people, but also of various social and economic activities, ideas and symbols, elements of material culture, as well as various desires and expectations. This means that a deep understanding of migration cannot be limited to approaching it as a predominantly mechanical movement between countries due only to rational reasons. A moving person turns out to be not just in a new country, but in a new life situation, which is characterized by a multitude of new circumstances and statuses. These new contexts and social interactions generate new emotions.

In this regard, I will make an attempt to show the emotional experiences that accompany transnational migration on example of the migration from the Central Asia in Russia. What emotions migrants experience? What emotions are associated with migration experience? What contexts of migration experience evoke positive and what negative emotions? What role do emotional experiences play not only in the life of migrants, but also in the lives of their families at home, etc.? According to our preliminary analysis, the main characteristic of the migrant's emotions is that they perceive themselves not as an equal participant in social interaction, but as an object; lose their subjectivity.