

Peer Review

Review of: "From Tsarist Rule to Independence: The Transformation of Ethnic Identities in Kyrgyzstan"

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The article sets very ambitious goals, which in their scope could aspire to lead to a book project. The author draws from a considerable multiplicity of sources to study a region and communities that remain heavily under-researched. The mixed-method approach is also beneficial for this kind of research, and the author employs qualitative data very effectively. However, there are a few suggestions that I believe the article would benefit from further:

1. The article declares the focus on the transformation of ethnic identities and the effect of state policies on economic and cultural disparities – it would be very helpful to critically discuss and operationalise these concepts with reference to broader literature and international scholarship, whether that focused on the region or beyond.
2. Similarly, the introductory part focused on literature could be expanded, perhaps even with the literature that is referenced later on in the analysis.
3. The methods sections could further explain the methodological rationale and its limitations, for instance, the employment of specific methods, which vary across the different sections of the analysis, as well as the selection of the case studies.
4. References could be added to different parts of the text, and the interviews could be included in the references section.
5. The conclusion could touch upon the next steps this research could be taken further, whether theoretically or empirically.

Hope these comments are helpful, and best of luck with your very insightful and important work on the region!

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.